

SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE


United Districts

OF

WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE

FOR THE YEAR

1914



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TO THE
URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS
COMPRISED IN THE
West Gloucestershire United Districts

M.O.H. ORDER 1912

H.M.S. PRINCE GEORGE
DARDANELLES.

March, 1915.

I HAVE the honor to submit to you my second Annual Report on the Health of the West Gloucestershire United Districts as a whole, together with separate Reports on each of the several Districts included therein. The period covered by this Report has been an eventful one. During the first seven months I carried out the duties of the two appointments of Medical Officer of Health and Medical Inspector of Schools. In my last Report I drew attention to the advantages and disadvantages of this combination of appointments: as time went on the latter were so greatly in excess of the former that at the Annual Meeting of the Joint Committee of the West Gloucestershire United Districts held at Newnham on March 31st the question was raised as to whether sufficient time was being devoted by the Medical Officer of Health to Public Health matters, and the Committee, whilst expressing the opinion that under the circumstances as much time as could be was devoted to Public Health questions, considered that too much time was being given to School Inspection work, and that as a result the Public Health work was bound to suffer. It was decided that the question of the dual appointment should come up for discussion at another meeting to be convened subsequently, and this meeting was held on Friday, 29th May, at Newnham, when it was unanimously resolved that the existing arrangement should terminate at the end of the School year, *viz.*, on the 31st of July. On June 6th the Education Committee of the Gloucestershire County Council held a Conference with certain representatives of the Joint Committee of the West Gloucestershire United Districts

M.O.H. Order (1912), and an arrangement was made for the termination of the existing appointment of School Medical Officer, and on the 26th June the Joint Committee of the West Gloucestershire United Districts met for the third time in that year at Newnham-on-Severn and appointed me whole time Medical Officer of Health.

From matters Local we proceed to matters Imperial. It is not incumbent on me to speak of the circumstances leading up to war, it will suffice to say that on the 1st of August Germany declared war upon Russia ; on the 2nd of August German troops in direct contravention of two Treaties, invaded Luxembourg and Belgium, and the same afternoon the British Admiralty called up the Naval Reserves. On the morning of the 4th of August the British Government's ultimatum to Germany was despatched : owing to its summary rejection it was officially announced from the Foreign Office that a state of war existed between Great Britain and Germany as from 11 p.m. on August 4th. On the 6th of August I informed the East Dean Council of the fact that I expected to be called up for Service in the Royal Navy, and applied for permission to nominate a *locum tenens* for the carrying on of my work during my absence on Active Service, and this was cordially granted. Next day I was appointed to H.M.S. "Mauretania," which had been converted into an armed Merchant Cruiser. This appointment was subsequently cancelled, and on the 2nd of September I was appointed in medical charge of H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth, and on the 16th of October was transferred to H.M.S. "Revenge" (Old), which was soon actively employed in the operations on the Belgian Coast, working in conjunction with the Allies at the western end of the line, and under the command of Rear Admiral the Hon. L. A. Hood, commanding Dover Patrol, and General Foch, of the Northern Sector of the French and Belgian Armies.

My return to the Royal Navy for the period of the War was sanctioned by each of the District Councils which I have the honour to serve, and a *locum tenens* was approved

in each case, and the kindness and consideration of the various Councils, under these trying circumstances, will always be gratefully remembered by me.

I desire to express my grateful thanks to those gentlemen whom the Councils approved, and the Local Government Board sanctioned, as my deputies, viz. :—

East Dean Rural District	...	G. F. RIGDEN, M.B., B.S.Lond., Cinderford, Glos.
Gloucester do. do.	...	WM. M. HOPE, D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, City and Port of Gloucester.
Lydney do. do.	...	R. MOYLE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., St. Briavels, Glos.
Awre, Newnham and West- bury-on-Severn	... ..	R. W. FISHER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Westbury-on-Severn.

You will doubtless be glad to hear that I have seen a good deal of service since the war broke out, both on the Belgian Coast, where I was constantly in action at Nieuport, Westende and Lombardzyde, during November and December. On the 1st of February I was fortunate enough to be appointed to H.M.S. "Prince George," which was under orders for the Dardanelles, where I am at present serving, and it is well understood that I am not at liberty to make any comments in connection with the operations there.

I am sure you will recognise that under Active Service conditions, where, as now, we are almost daily under fire, it is difficult to give you as full a Report as I should wish. I hope, therefore, that if I am spared to return to my duties at home I shall be able to prove myself worthy of the confidence which you have hitherto been good enough to place in me.

AREA, POPULATION AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT

The area included under the title United Districts of West Gloucestershire covers the whole of the Forest of Dean, extends as far as the banks of the Wye in the parishes of St. Briavels, Brockweir and Tidenham, where it lies

This is the area as arranged in accordance with the terms of the West Gloucestershire United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Order, 1912, under which, when the present Medical Officers of Health for the Rural District of West Dean and the Urban District of Coleford vacate their Public Health appointments, these districts automatically become part of the West Gloucestershire area as detailed above. I was originally appointed Medical Inspector of School Children for West Dean and Coleford. The acreage of the two places is 23,441, and the population in 1911 was 17,948.

in the tongue of land between the river Wye and the Estuary of the Severn, and round Gloucester as far as the limits comprised within the boundaries of the parishes composing the Gloucester Rural District.

At the Census of 1911 the district comprised 98,375 acres, with a population of 45,475, and in 1914 the latter is estimated to have increased to 46,112 persons.

I have abstracted the following notes on the geological features of the district from the Report for 1913 :—

Throughout the Forest of Dean we have coal measures and on its borders millstone grit and carboniferous limestone. The plains below Cinderford and north of Newnham, comprising the parishes of Huntley, Churcham, Bulley and Minsterworth, are for the most part composed of red marl with keuper sandstone. West of this, comprising Blakeney, part of Newnham, Littledean, Flaxley, Abenhall and Longhope, we find the old red sandstone and marl. Gloucester City is situated in a bed of alluvium, which extends all along the banks of the River Severn, and as we get further removed from the river, we find lower lias, clay and limestone which are found throughout the greater part of Gloucester Rural District. The importance of a knowledge of the geology of the district is understood when one considers how intimately connected with the nature of the soil are the questions of drainage and water supply.

The question of the adoption of the *Notification of Births Act* 1907 was discussed in my Report last year, in which it will be remembered it was decided that owing to the rural nature of the greater part of this area, no reduction in Infantile Mortality was likely to occur through its adoption.

In crowded cities where the population is largely industrial this Act does have a beneficial effect, but from the Reports of Medical Officers of Cities I gather that there is some difficulty in obtaining notifications of births in spite of the penalty that may be incurred through non-compliance with the Act. For example, in the City of Dundee only about 59% of the total births registered were notified

Health Visitors' Reports.—This matter has been under consideration, and a scheme is being considered in which use will be made of the services of District Nurses.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—This disease was made notifiable by Medical Practitioners and Certified Midwives from 1st of April, 1914, under an Order of the Local Government Board issued on the 5th of February, 1914. Very few cases were reported—there only having been four notifications received from the whole of the combined district. It has been estimated that approximately one third of the cases of blindness amongst school children have been caused by neglect at birth, and compulsory notification now compels people to take proper precautions by insisting on attention being given to discharges from the eyes of the new-born child, and it is confidently hoped that a large reduction in the number of cases of blindness will result.

Mental Deficiency Act.—Like the Act just mentioned, the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, came into force on the 1st of April, 1914. At the end of the year the Provisional Joint Committee for the care of the Mentally Defective for the County of Gloucester reported that they had adopted a scheme prepared by the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose, and that the scheme had been approved by the Board of Control. The Committee did not consider it desirable that the Local Authority should provide a special institution for the reception of patients under the Act, and recommended that an agreement should be entered into with the proprietors of the Stoke Park Colony, at Stoke Gifford, for the reception of suitable cases at that or other institutions under their management, at 10s 6d per head per week for trainable cases, and 14s per head per week for cases of lower mental grade.

BIRTHS AND THE BIRTH-RATE.

The total number of births registered in the whole of the district during 1914 was 1011, giving a rate of 21·9, which, whilst comparing unfavourably with that for the

whole of England and Wales, is identical with that for the Rural portions only of England and Wales.

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE.

After taking from the number of deaths registered in the district those deaths taking place in Public Institutions and elsewhere in it of persons whose homes were outside the district, and adding the deaths of residents of the district whose deaths occurred outside it, we have 541 deaths with a rate of 11.7, as compared with the rate of 13.6 for the whole of England and Wales, and 12.2 for the Rural portions of England and Wales only, the latter being the fairer comparison, as the West Gloucestershire United District is almost entirely rural, the urban portions of it being very small towns with a large portion of their inhabitants following agricultural occupations.

INFANT DEATH-RATE.—This rate for the whole district is 63, and compares very favourably both with the rate for the whole of England and Wales (105), and for the Rural portions only (93).

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

I give below the deaths from the six chief Zymotic diseases during the year, and thought it would be interesting to have in the same table the number of cases notified during the year, where notifiable, and those removed to hospital.

	Deaths, 1914	No. of cases notified	Occurring in or removed to Hospital
Small-pox ..	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ..	4	351	214
Croup & Diphtheria	8	32	7
Enteric Fever ..	0	10	5
Measles	0	Not notifiable	
Whooping Cough	8	Do.	
Total ..	20	393	226

Of the four deaths from scarlet fever, two occurred in the East Dean and one each belonged to Awre and Lydney Rural districts, that belonging to Awre taking place in the Isolation Hospital at Greenbottom, as did also the two deaths belonging to East Dean.

There were eight deaths from diphtheria, compared with three in 1913. Four of them occurred in East Dean, two being isolated at home and two dying in the Isolation Hospital at Greenbottom. Three occurred in Gloucester Rural District, one death occurring in the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Over, and one occurred in the Lydney Rural District, and had been nursed at home.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—There have been no deaths from measles during 1914, but 8 deaths from whooping cough were registered—three in East Dean, 1 in Westbury, two in Awre, and two in Gloucester. This gives a rate of 0·17 per 1,000 of the population living, and compares favourably with the rate for the whole of England and Wales (0·21), while it is identical with that for the rural portions of England and Wales.

PREVALENCE DURING THE YEAR OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

There has been a marked increase in the total cases of infectious diseases notified during 1914 in comparison with 1913, which also had had a larger number of cases than had been the case for some years previously. During 1914 there has been a large increase in scarlet fever cases, and also many more cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been notified. There have been decreases in diphtheria, enteric fever and erysipelas, compared with 1913, and additional diseases notified have been one case of cerebro-spinal fever and four cases of ophthalmia neonatorum.

SCARLATINA.—Of the 351 cases notified, 241 were removed to hospital. The disease has been prevalent to some extent in all parts of the district, but chiefly in East Dean, Lydney and Gloucester Rural Districts. There were four deaths, compared with two in 1913, giving a fatality per 1,000 living of 0·08, which is identical with that for the whole of England and Wales and 0·02 in excess of that for the Rural portions only.

The epidemic of scarlet fever which went through the Combined District in 1913 has continued during 1914. It has been of a very mild type, the case mortality being so low as 1.1 per cent., and the mild form of the epidemic has doubtless contributed to its persistence in the more populous parts of the District. There is no doubt that in some instances the infection has been of so mild a form that parents have failed to recognise it, and the indisposition of the child has been so slight they have hesitated to incur the expense of medical advice, and on several occasions children suffering from scarlet fever were found attending school. But while in some instances the exposure of the child in public has been due to genuine ignorance as to the nature of the illness on the part of the parents, in other instances parents have wilfully exposed their children in public knowing they were in an infectious condition, rather than suffer the inconvenience that isolation would have entailed, and in the East Dean District the Council decided to prosecute in seven cases where this had occurred, or those in charge of the children had failed to exercise necessary precautions in regard to their own persons.

DIPHTHERIA.—Although the total number of cases notified from the whole of the district was only 32 compared with 56 in 1913, the fatality was much higher, there being 8 deaths compared with three in 1913, and giving a fatality of 0.17 per 1,000 living, compared with 0.15 for the Whole of England and Wales and 0.14 for the Rural portions of England and Wales only. Unfortunately, there was again a fatal case at Churchdown—a child who died the day the case was notified, but it is gratifying to note that only two cases compared with 21 in 1913 were notified from this part of the Gloucester Rural District, where hitherto the infection seems to have been so very persistent.

ERYSIPELAS.—There were 18 cases notified compared with 24 in 1913, one—an adult over 65 years of age—ending fatally. There was only one case notified from

Gloucester compared with 10 in 1913 (nine of them from Wotton Vil, which this year has none), 10 from East Dean, one of them being the fatal case, compared with seven in 1913, and five in Lydney, compared with 6 in 1913. Two were notified from Westbury.

ENTERIC FEVER.—10 cases were notified, compared with 13 in 1913. Five of the cases were notified from East Dean, compared with one in 1913, and four from Gloucester Rural, compared with 12 in 1913. Lydney Rural had one case in 1914 and none in 1913. Two of the East Dean cases and the single case in Lydney Rural Districts proved fatal. All three fatal cases had been moved to the Isolation Hospital in their respective districts. In two cases the infection was brought from other districts. The fatality per 1,000 of population is 0·06, compared with 0·05 for England and Wales, and 0·04 for the Rural portions of England and Wales only.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—It is gratifying to be able to report that there were no cases of puerperal fever notified in the Combined District during 1914.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There has been a marked increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified during 1914, being 83 from all forms of tuberculosis, compared with 54 in 1913. The increase has occurred chiefly in pulmonary tuberculosis, for which there were 71 cases notified, compared with 45 in 1913; in all the districts secondary notifications have been excluded from the returns. There were 23 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and 10 from other forms of tuberculosis, East Dean having 11, Gloucester 8, Westbury and Lydney 3 of the former, and East Dean having 7, Gloucester 1 and Lydney 2 of the latter. There has been a marked improvement in regard to the cases notified receiving sanatorium treatment. In 1913 none of the cases appeared to have received this treatment, but in 1914 50% of the pulmonary cases were admitted to Sanatorium and 27 were discharged during 1914.

There is no arrangement in force in any of the Combined Districts for providing Sanatorium or other special treatment other than that offered by the different Workhouse Infirmaries, and that provided by the County Scheme. The Joint Committee for Tuberculosis for the County of Gloucester have entered into an agreement for the provision of 65 beds at the Cranham Lodge Sanatorium. The agreement operated from April 1st, 1914, and will continue until April 1st, 1916. The Committee had settled with the Gloucester and the Gloucestershire Insurance Committees that the Joint Committee for Tuberculosis should provide 22 sanatorium beds for the County and three for the city, and 33 hospital beds for the County and five for the City, together with dispensary treatment and the services of the tuberculosis officers for insured persons recommended by the two Insurance Committees. The Committee had also settled the terms of an arrangement with the Stroud Joint Hospital Board for 12 beds at Cashes Green, and for further beds at the Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over and at the Tewkesbury Joint Isolation Hospital.

SMALL POX.—There have been no cases of small pox during the year. The question of providing better isolation accommodation in different parts of the district, in view of the increased danger of an outbreak under present conditions, has been raised during the year, but no alteration in the accommodation available has been made to that existing previous to 1914.

DIARRHŒA.—There have been no infant deaths from diarrhœa during 1914.

ENTERITIS AND GASTRITIS.—There were five deaths during the year, three of them occurring in the East Dean District.

PNEUMONIA.—There has been a marked increase in deaths from pneumonia during 1914, being 27, compared with 16 in 1914. Eleven of them were of children under five years of age.

HEART DISEASE.—There were 107 deaths registered from heart disease in 1914, compared with 79 in 1913.

CANCER.—There was a slight decrease in the number of deaths from cancer, being 40 compared with 47 in 1913.

RAINFALL.

I am indebted to F. V. LEESE, Esq., Deputy Surveyor of the Royal Forest of Dean, for the record of the rainfall at Whitemead Park during 1914.

Date	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	—..	—..	—..	·07..	—..	·03..	·96..	·43..	—..	—..	·21..	·11
2	—..	—..	—..	—..	·04..	—..	·65..	—..	—..	—..	·59..	·43
3	—..	—..	·02..	·26..	·63..	—..	—..	·13..	—..	—..	·03..	·04
4	·28..	—..	—..	·34..	·11..	—..	·26..	—..	—..	—..	·46..	·58
5	·10..	—..	·13..	·33..	·11..	—..	·10..	—..	—..	—..	·06..	—
6	—..	·24..	·08..	·01..	·11..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·15..	·46
7	·02..	·39..	·25..	·12..	·26..	·10..	·18..	·18..	—..	—..	—..	·06
8	·02..	—..	·25..	·09..	—..	·60..	—..	·10..	·06..	—..	—..	·09
9	·01..	·05..	·19..	·27..	·04..	1·48..	—..	—..	·12..	—..	—..	—
10	—..	·41..	—..	·43..	·04..	—..	·30..	—..	·62..	—..	—..	—
11	—..	·12..	·33..	—..	·11..	·52..	·35..	—..	—..	—..	·08..	·75
12	—..	·09..	·13..	—..	—..	—..	·05..	—..	·23..	—..	·08..	·29
13	—..	·60..	·62..	—..	—..	—..	·03..	—..	·31..	·27..	·04..	·44
14	—..	·72..	·42..	—..	—..	—..	·02..	—..	—..	·22..	·45..	—
15	·09..	·05..	·16..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·35..	·08..	—..	·17..	—
16	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·09..	—..	·39..	—..	—..	—
17	—..	·26..	·24..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·01..	—..	—..	·74
18	—..	—..	·05..	—..	—..	—..	·15..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·22
19	—..	·06..	·07..	—..	—..	—..	·43..	—..	·03..	—..	·04..	·06
20	—..	·39..	·04..	—..	—..	·03..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·25
21	—..	·21..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·13..	—..	—..	·23..	—..	—
22	—..	·06..	·06..	—..	·25..	·01..	—..	—..	—..	·20..	—..	—
23	—..	·04..	·26..	—..	·07..	—..	—..	·09..	—..	·22..	—..	—
24	—..	—..	·10..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·08..	—..	·18..	·11..	·22
25	·06..	—..	·30..	—..	—..	—..	·02..	·49..	—..	·45..	·02..	·68
26	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·06..	·01..	—..	·07..	·33..	—
27	·14..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·38..	·45
28	—..	·18..	·50..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·21..	·95
29	·11..	—..	·24..	—..	·08..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·33..	·64..	—
30	·01..	—..	·28..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·24..	·78..	·55
31	·32..	—..	—..	—..	—..	—..	·55..	—..	—..	·12..	—..	—
Total	1·16..	3·87..	4·72..	1·92..	1·85..	2·77..	4·33..	1·86..	1·85..	2·53..	4·83..	7·37

WATER.—The scheme for the supply of water to Churchdown was completed during 1914, and connections with the new supply are being rapidly pushed forward.

The question of a water supply to 14 cottages at Upper Rea, Hempsted, has been under discussion under the year. The occupants of the houses can only obtain their water from two shallow wells near with an unsatisfactory collecting ground, or from a questionable brook or the River Severn. The owner of the houses had proposed sinking a well in front of the houses, but that position was too near the river Severn to be satisfactory: a

field in the rear of the houses, on adjacent property, seemed to offer a more desirable position, and the owner of the field, Mr. J. D. Birchall, had signified his willingness to allow a well to be sunk there, providing his tenant was agreeable. The Council decided to hold the matter over to enable the owner of the cottages to state what he proposed doing to improve the water supply.

Reference was made in the report for 1913 to the danger arising from hand-flushed closets owing to an insufficient supply of water in the Newnham-on-Severn district. During 1914 repairs have been carried out to the pipes carrying the water, which it is hoped will effectually put an end to the leakage and ensure a sufficient supply of water to the town.

The water supply of several portions of the East Dean District has been receiving attention during the year, notably the villages of Ruardean, Ruardean Hill, Blakeney Hill, and Viney Hill.

So far as the village of Ruardean is concerned, it does not seem to be so much a matter of increasing the supply as of improving the distribution, and the matter has been receiving consideration, but was not settled at the end of the year.

Plans for the extension of the mains to Ruardean Hill, Woodside, Pludds and Joys Green have been completed. A new pumping engine has been fixed at Greenbottom and the plant is ready for pumping water to Ruardean Hill district.

The question of the supply to Blakeney Hill and Viney Hill has also been discussed, a Conference having been held between the East Dean and West Dean Rural District Councils, at which East Dean made certain proposals which were not agreed to by West Dean. The East Dean Council, however, instructed their Surveyor, Mr Whitehouse, to survey the land and report to them on the subject, and at the end of the year the Council had decided to carry the mains as far as Blakeney Hill. This

will enable house connections to be made in place of using public stand-pipes.

DRAINAGE.—The scheme for the drainage of Churchdown has been completed during 1914.

The question of the drainage of Drybrook and Steam Mills has been again under consideration during 1914, but nothing has been settled in the matter.

An action was entered against the East Dean Rural District Council for the loss of four cattle alleged to have been caused by the pollution of the brook by the sewage of Mitcheldean. The action was still pending at the close of the year.

SCAVENGING.—No alteration has been made in the arrangements for scavenging in any parts of the district during the year. In certain parts of East Dean district the inhabitants are themselves largely responsible for the unsatisfactory manner in which the refuse is dealt with, but in other parts of the same district where no scavenging system exists one is much needed.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—There has been improvement in the arrangement and conduct of several of the dairies in the district, more especially in those from which large quantities of milk are sent out.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.—In dealing with the several districts forming the Combined District, I have shown in tabular form the work carried out during the year under the Housing and T.P. Act (1909), from which it will be seen that steady progress has been made in all the districts during 1914. The district having the most pressing need for new houses is East Dean, where 31 cases of overcrowding have been dealt with during the year, Magistrate's Orders having been obtained in four instances. In Lydney also there is a shortage of houses, but in a very much less degree than in East Dean District. The scarcity is most marked in houses having more than two bedrooms, and it is to be hoped that the Public Utility Society formed in the East Dean District will endeavour

to meet this demand. In Lydney also there is a prospect of the inhabitants themselves endeavouring to meet the shortage of houses by building for their own occupation. In both Lydney and East Dean a large proportion of the population not engaged in agriculture are employed in remunerative work that should enable them to pay such rents as would ensure a reasonable return on money expended, and it is a matter for surprise that so few of them have hitherto built for themselves. In almost all the cases of overcrowding the plea is made that it is unavoidable owing to the shortage of houses, and especially of houses having sufficient bedroom accommodation.

In the course of the carrying out of the Housing and Town Planning Act, cases not only of overcrowding, but also of neglect of children, are brought to my notice. One very flagrant case of dirt and neglect was brought to my notice by the Sanitary Inspector for East Dean. This occurred at Steam Mills; the parents were prosecuted, and a conviction obtained on 31st July.

In East Dean District notices to cleanse were issued in 16 cases, some of the houses being in a deplorably neglected condition. While it must be admitted that it is a difficult matter to keep an overcrowded house clean and an even more difficult matter for the occupants of an overcrowded house to keep themselves clean, and the wear and tear on overcrowded property must always be heavy apart from wilful damage done to it, still, it is only necessary to notice how differently houses in the same street will often be kept, whose occupants have practically the same disadvantages to contend with, to realise that their own careless habits contribute very largely to the unhomelike dwellings of a certain section of the working classes.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

O. W. ANDREWS,

M.B., B.S., DUNELM : D.P.H., CAMB.,
Deputy Surgeon-General, R.N.

EAST DEAN & UNITED PARISHES RURAL DISTRICT.

Composition of District: Civil Parishes including Abinghall, Blaisdon (Notwood Hill), Bulley, Churcham (Birdwood and Oakle Street), Flaxley, Huntley, Longhope (Chessgrove, Dursley Cross and Little London), Minsterworth, East Dean (Blakeney Hill, Bilson Green, Cinderford, Dockham, Harry Hill, Horse Lea, Joy's Green, Lower Soudley, Lydbrook Hill, Plump Hill, Pope's Hill, Reddings, Ruspidge, Stockwell Green, The Pludds, Upper Soudley and parts of Drybrook and Littledean Hill), Littledean (part of Littledean Hill), Mitcheldean.

Chairman of Council: G. H. ROWLINSON, Esq., Cinderford.

Clerk to Council: Mr. M. F. CARTER, Solicitor, Newnham.

Surveyor: MR W. WHITEHOUSE, Cinderford.

Sanitary Inspector: MR L. G. LYNE, Cinderford.

Assessable value of District, £57,385.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

	Adopted
Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 ..	—*
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ..	—*
„ „ 1907 (certain sections)	1908
Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops Acts, 1885-6	1909

* I am unable to give the dates of the adoption of these Acts.

Bye-Laws :

Prevention of Nuisances	..	..	..	1876
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	1876
Slaughter Houses	..	..	..	1876
New Streets and Buildings	..	..	(R)	1901

Urban Powers :

Sections of Public Health Act, 1875, 20, 22, 24, part of 26 not previously in force, 27, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41 and 43	1891
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GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1901	1911
Area in Acres	28626	28626
Total Tenements	4355	4473
Average No. of persons per separate occupier	4.59	4.46
Total Population	20011	19952
Males	10166	
Females	9845	

BIRTHS AND DEATH RATES.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate			Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	19963	572		28·6	246	12·3	0	34	47	82	279	13·9
1910	19957	521		26·1	262	13·1	0	30	50	96	292	14·3
1911	19952	488	492	24·6	231	11·5	0	28	43	88	259	12·9
1912	19945	497	504	25·2	238	11·9	0	38	47	93	261	13·0
1913	19939	490	496	24·8	222	11·1	0	29	49	98	251	12·5
1914	19933	527	527	26·4	241	12·1	2	28	43	80	267	13·4

Area of district in acres 28,626
 Total population at all ages (1911) . . . 19,952
 No. of inhabited houses (1911) 4,473
 Average No. of persons per house (1911) . . . 4·46

BIRTHS AND THE BIRTH-RATE.—There were 527 births registered in the district, all belonging to it, and giving a rate of 26·4, which is the highest since 1909, and compares favourably with that of 23·6 for the whole of England and Wales, and still more favourably with that of 21·9 for Rural England and Wales. Of the total number of births registered, 20 were of illegitimate children.

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE.—There were 241 deaths registered in the district, giving a crude rate of 12·1, which, corrected by the factor for the district, gives the low standardised rate of 10·8, compared with 12·2 for Rural England and Wales.

There were, however, two deaths registered in the district of persons not belonging to it, and 28 deaths occurring outside the district of persons who were residents of it, and when the gross deaths registered in the district are corrected by these figures, the net number of deaths is 267 and the net rate 13·4, which is almost identical with that for Rural England and Wales, and is the highest rate in this district since 1909.

MORTALITY AT ALL AGES.

[illegible]

ENTERIC FEVER.—There were two deaths, both at Cinderford. One was that of a woman aged 44 who was notified about the beginning of April. The premises were inspected, but the source of infection was not established. The woman was removed to Hospital, where she remained until her death in July. The second case was that of a boy aged 14 who was notified early in August. A sister of the boy had previously been notified as having enteric fever, and it was ascertained that she had recently returned home ill from Bath. The usual precautions were taken, and the parents warned as to the steps necessary to prevent the spread of infection, but about 12 days afterwards the boy was notified. He was removed to hospital, but unfortunately died a week later.

SCARLET FEVER.—There were two deaths from scarlet fever: one a boy of six years, who died at the Isolation Hospital in February, and the other a girl of 4 years, who died at the Isolation Hospital in November, but whose home was at Moorwood, East Dean. A member of the child's family had attended Joys Green School, whence, probably, the infection had been derived. The house had a privy vault.

WHOOPING COUGH.—There were three deaths from whooping cough, compared with no deaths in 1913, and all were children under two years of age. One was a male child of 14 months at Blakeney Hill, who died in March, the second an infant (male), who died at Ayleford, also in March, and the third death that of a little girl 23 months old who died the third week in April at Popes Hill.

DIPHTHERIA.—Four deaths occurred from diphtheria during 1914, compared with no deaths from this disease in 1913. The first death occurred in January, and was that of a girl aged 7 living at Ruardean Woodside, who had attended Slad's School. She was removed to Hospital. The house was overcrowded and dirty, there were ten people living in it, with only two bedrooms. The house had no drain, no ashpit, and a pail closet. A second and

third case were removed from this house to Hospital, one in February and one in November. The second death occurred in March at Blaize Bailey, and was that of a girl aged 12 who died before the receipt of the notification. The third death came from this house also, and was that of a child aged 22 months, sister of the above, who died six days later. There was a privy vault and no drain to this house.

The fourth death occurred in September at the Isolation Hospital, and was that of a girl aged four residing at Ruardean Woodside. There was a privy vault at this house also.

There were no deaths from puerperal fever.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There were 18 deaths from all forms of tuberculosis as in 1913, giving a rate of 0·90 per 1,000 living.

PHTHISIS.—Eleven of the deaths were due to pulmonary tuberculosis, compared with 14 in 1913, giving a rate of 0·55 per 1,000. Four of them were first notified in 1913 and two in 1914.

CANCER.—There were 12 deaths from Cancer, compared with 16 in 1913.

HEART DISEASE.—There were 55 deaths, compared with 39 in 1913.

INQUESTS.—Seventeen inquests were held during the year, and eleven of the deaths are included under violence. The inquests included the following causes of death:—

Heart	4	Childbirth	1
Improper treatment (not of a culpable nature)	1	Bicycle accidents ..	1
Colliery accidents ..	5	Drowning „ ..	1
		Burning „ ..	1

There was one death due to lead poisoning, a man aged 48, who died at Mitcheldean.

INFANT MORTALITY.—There were 43 deaths, compared with 48 in 1913, giving a rate of 80 per 1,000 births, compared with 93 for Rural England and Wales. There was one death from whooping cough, an illegitimate child of 7 months, and two deaths from abdominal tuberculosis. There were three deaths from enteritis. There was one uncertified death due to premature birth. Two of the 43 deaths were of illegitimate children.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality for 1914 :—

CAUSES OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total
All causes—											
Certified	42										
Uncertified	1										
Whooping Cough	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	1..	0	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	1..	0..	1	2
Other Tuberculous Dis.	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	1..	0..	0	1
Convulsions	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Bronchitis	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	1..	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	3..	1	4
Diarrhœa	..	0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Enteritis	..	0..	0..	1..	0	1	1..	0..	0..	1	3
Atelectasis	..	1..	0..	0..	0	1	0..	0..	0..	0	1
Congenital Malformations	1..	0..	1..	0	2	1..	0..	0..	0..	0	3
Premature Birth	..12..	1..	2..	0	15	0..	0..	0..	0	15	15
Atrophy, Debility and											
Marasmus	..	2..	0..	0..	1	3	2..	0..	1..	0	6
Other causes	..	2..	0..	0..	0	2	1..	1..	0..	1	5
Total	..	18..	1..	4..	1	24	5..	3..	6..	5	43

Births in the year—Legitimate, 507 ; Illegitimate, 20

Deaths in the year—Legitimate, 41 ; Illegitimate, 2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diseases	Cases and Ages								Cases and Localities																	Removed to Hospital	
	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Cinderford	Steam Mill	Littledean	Longhope	Bilson Green	Lydbrook	Ruardean Hill	Ruardean Woodside	Other Parts of Ruardean	Drybrook	Blaize Bailey	Soudley	Harry Hill	Ruspidge	Nailbridge	Mitcheldean	Minsterworth	Other Parts of East Dean		
At all ages	14	10	208	5	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Diphtheria ..	0	3	9	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Erysipelas ..	0	0	1	0	3	4	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Scarlet Fever	2	47	143	8	7	1	0	60	11	22	0	3	7	10	2	12	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	
Enteric Fever	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18		
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Ophthalmia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Neonatorum	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pul. Tuberculosis	44	4	8	14	12	5	1	28	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	8	1	4	1	2	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	22	
	291	4	55	166	26	27	10	3	98	12	26	5	4	9	11	5	15	29	4	12	3	18	6	6	2	26	165

Isolation Hospital—Greenbottom Isolation Hospital.
Sanatorium—Cranham Lodge, Stroud.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—There were 291 cases of infectious disease notified during 1914, compared with 206 in 1913, the number from each form of illness being higher than in the previous year, but the increase being chiefly in scarlet fever, and pulmonary tuberculosis.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were 14 cases compared with 9 in 1913. Three of them were removed to hospital. There were three deaths, giving a fatality of 0·15 per 1,000 of the population, exactly the same as that for England and Wales, and slightly higher than the rate (0·14) for Rural England and Wales. Three cases were notified from Ruardean Woodside, two of them proving fatal, and two of the three cases from Blaize Bailey were also fatal. I have dealt with them under deaths.

The results of bacteriological examinations are sent to Dr. Campbell, the Medical Officer of the Isolation Hospital at Greenbottom.

SCARLET FEVER.—208 cases were notified in 1914, compared with 156 in 1913, and two of them were fatal, giving a fatality rate of 0·10 per 1,000 of population; 137 of the cases were removed to hospital.

The following table gives the number of cases notified each month, with the localities and schools chiefly affected. In some instances several members of one family attended the same school, and in others one family had members attending different schools.

One case occurred in a house which has been condemned as unfit for habitation.

Month	LOCALITIES																		SCHOOLS AFFECTED												
	Cinderford	Harry Hill and Steam Mills	Littledean	Bilson Green	Lydbrook	Ruardean Hill	Ruardean Woodside	Other Parts	Drybrook	Soudley	Harrow Hill	Ruspidge	Nailbridge	Mitcheldean	Minsterworth	Longhope	Other Parts	East Dean	Steam Mills	St. Whites	Bilson	Littledean	Drybrook	Joy's Green	Ruardean	Soudley	Other Schools	Double View			
Total	14	14	11	5	16	32	16	18	14	20	34	17	11	208	60..11..22..	3..	7..10..	2..12..27..	9..	3..15..	6..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1827..	6..24..22..25..	9..10..	6..	9	..10
January ..	4..	0..	1..	0..	4..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	1..	0..	0..	3	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	2..	0..	1..	1..	0	0	0	
February ..	4..	0..	1..	0..	1..	0..	1..	3..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1..	1..	1..	0..	3	..	2	0	
March ..	0..	1..	1..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	0	0	0	
April ..	4..	4..	0..	1..	0..	4..	0..	2..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	1..	1..	0..	1..	5..	0..	1..	0	0	0	0	
May ..	8..	3..	9..	0..	1..	2..	0..	3..	2..	0..	0..	1..	1..	0..	0..	0..	2	10..	0..	0..	2..	5..	0..	1..	5..	0..	1	1	0	0	
June ..	1..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	5..	0..	1..	3..	1..	0..	0..	0..	3	3..	0..	0..	2..	5..	3..	0..	1..	0..	0	0	0	0	
July ..	2..	1..	1..	0..	0..	4..	1..	1..	1..	5..	0..	2..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	9..	0..	0..	0..	4..	2..	0..	0..	1..	2	..	..	..	..
August ..	4..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	3..	0..	3..	2..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	..	..	..	..
September ..	11..	0..	1..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..	1..	0..	2..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1	3..	2..	4..	1..	1..	1..	0..	0..	1..	1	..	..	..	..
October ..	10..	1..	5..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..10..	2..	2..	2..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	2..	9..	5..11..	1..	1..	1..	0..	1..	1	..	..	..	..
November..	6..	0..	1..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	5..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	3	0..	1..	4..	0..	0..	4..	2..	1..	1..	1	..	..	..	..
December	6..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	3	0..	0..	2..	0..	0..	2..	2..	0..	0..	0	..	..	..	..
1914 ..	208	60..11..22..	3..	7..10..	2..12..27..	9..	3..15..	6..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1827..	6..24..22..25..	9..10..	6..	9	..10									
Comparison of localities affected in 1913 ..	156	53..	0..	6..	0..	36..12..	8..	0..17..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..19..	2..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	..	..	..	..

In consequence of information received from Mr Lyne, the Sanitary Inspector, I visited Bilson Green and Littledean Schools and found 4 children in the former and two in the latter school were suffering from scarlet fever, and arrangements were made for their exclusion and isolation.

The difficulty of getting parents and others to recognise their responsibility in permitting infected children to associate with other children is shown by the fact that it was considered necessary to prosecute in seven instances where the circumstances had shown the neglect to isolate to be of an especially flagrant nature. The prosecutions were in May, and were as follows :—

1 prosecution for concealment of illness.

- | | | | |
|---|----|----|--|
| 1 | ,, | ,, | allowing person in charge of a case of scarlet fever to assist in selling milk. |
| 2 | ,, | ,, | exposing children whilst suffering from scarlet fever. |
| 3 | ,, | ,, | for obstructing the officers whilst removing a case of scarlet fever under a Magistrate's Order. |

In the first case defendant pleaded guilty, but the magistrates dismissed the case as they had already fined the husband for another offence.

ENTERIC FEVER.—There were five cases notified, two of them ending fatally.

The first case was notified about the end of March, and was a woman aged 44, from Moorwood, who was removed to the Isolation Hospital, where she died in July. The source of infection was not established, though it was discovered that the husband of the woman had had enteric fever some years before. There were six people in the house, three of them children under 14, and two bedrooms. The house had a pail closet, and no drain, and the water was obtained from the Public Well.

The second case was notified the end of May from Cinderford, and was a man aged 26. There were nine people living in the house, and three bedrooms. Six of the children were under 14. The man was isolated at home and recovered. The house was supplied with town water, had a water closet, and was drained into the sewer, and there was no ashpit.

Two other of the Cinderford cases occurred in one house, one case in July, and another in August, and the infection appears to have been imported from Bath, whence the first case had returned home just previously. The first case was not removed to hospital, and, unfortunately, a brother took the infection. He was removed to the Isolation Hospital, but died there about the middle of August.

The fifth case was from Steam Mills, in December, and was a girl aged 17, who, I regret to say, died in January of 1915. In this case the infection was undoubtedly brought from Cheltenham, where the girl had been in service. She was removed to Hospital, and the Cheltenham Sanitary authority advised of the illness. In this house also there were 9 people, two of them being children under 14 years, and three bedrooms. There was a pail closet, and the drains emptied into a ditch.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There were 44 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1914, compared with 27 in 1913, 28 of them being notified from Cinderford and five from Mitcheldean. Twenty-two cases were admitted to Sanatoria, and 16 discharged from Sanatoria during 1914. Of the 8 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis four were from Cinderford.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Two cases were notified during 1914.

There have been no additions or alterations to the Isolation Hospital during 1914. The question of extending

it has been under consideration, and, no doubt, had it not been for the war, some progress would have been made; as it is, the matter is in abeyance.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

Notifications	Cases	Suspects	Children in same house
Scarlet Fever	110	13	121
Diphtheria	8	—	15
Measles	2	—	1
Whooping Cough	64	1	13
Chicken Pox	13	—	4
Mumps	20	—	—
Ringworm	50	—	—
Impetigo	21	—	—
Verminous	8	—	—
Scabies	4	—	—
Others	10	—	—

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

Name of School	Disease	1st day of Closure	Last day of Closure	No. of School days closed
Bulley & Churcham C.	Wh.-Cough	16-2-14	6-3-14	15

INFANTS UNDER 5 EXCLUDED.

E.D. Steam Mills C. Infants.—Excluded for Scarlet Fever, Ringworm and Whooping Cough from May 20th to the Whitsuntide Holidays.

WATER SUPPLY.—The question of the water supply of the village of Ruardean, and also of Ruardean Hill (which is a part of the Township of East Dean), have been under consideration during the year. With regard to the former, Mr L. G. Lyne presented a report to the Council in July, and I inspected the area and reported that there was some ground for complaint by the inhabitants of this district. There is a good supply of water in the village, but it is badly distributed, some of the houses having to fetch their water from a distance of 300 yards, but up to the end of the year no definite decision in regard to the matter had been arrived at.

The question of the Ruardean Hill Water supply, which has been under discussion for some years, has again been receiving consideration during 1914, and seems about to be satisfactorily settled. The Council authorised their Engineer to prepare plans and specifications for the work, but owing to some important details still requiring

settlement, at the time of going to press the plans had not been forwarded to the Local Government Board for their sanction to the necessary loan.

The water supply of Blakeney Hill and Viney Hill has again been under discussion. There are difficulties in the way of a satisfactory settlement owing to the fact that one portion of the locality is in the East Dean District and the other in the West Dean Rural District. The East Dean portion consists of about 27 houses on Viney Hill, and some of them, about 14, have an excellent supply of well water. A Conference was held between the East Dean and the West Dean Rural District Councils, when East Dean made certain proposals, which, however, were not accepted by West Dean, and no settlement was arrived at. However, the East Dean Council have now instructed Mr Whitehouse, their Surveyor, to survey the land and report to the Council on the subject.

Mitcheldean is supplied by a private water company. There have been no extensions during the year.

Two private supplies were improved during 1914.

DRAINAGE.—Several complaints were received during the hot weather regarding the drainage of Drybrook, and the question of the drainage of Drybrook and Steam Mills has again been under discussion, but nothing has been settled in the matter, but it is possible that when several of the schemes now receiving consideration are nearer settlement the Council may feel prepared to devote attention to this scheme, which has been a familiar theme for some years.

I visited the Outfall Works at Soudley and reported to the Council regarding them at their September meeting. As with other matters relating to the district, the satisfactory settlement is one involving considerable outlay, and it must be admitted that the present time is not a very propitious one to select for embarking on expensive schemes.

POLLUTION OF STREAMS.—An injunction is being applied for to prevent the drainage of Mitcheldean entering the brook. There was an action entered against the R.D. Council for the value of four cattle, whose deaths are alleged to have been caused by the pollution of the brook by the sewage of Mitcheldean, and at the close of the year the action was still pending.

SCAVENGING.—In 1913 comment was made on the unsatisfactory manner in which scavenging is carried out in the district. In Cinderford, much of it is due to the negligence of householders themselves. Earlier in the year, in consequence of my directing the attention of the Council to the accumulations of refuse at Steam Mills, they arranged for its removal. The houses in this part have little or no garden to them, and the inhabitants have only the roads and waste land on which to deposit their rubbish. I remarked last year on the undesirable condition of many of the yards in the Mitcheldean district, but the matter is still requiring attention.

SCHOOLS.—In consequence of a report made to the Managers of the Blaisdon School, improvements have been effected in the sanitary arrangements.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—The slaughter-houses of the district have been inspected as frequently as possible, and in four instances food has been condemned, but in no case has it been necessary to take legal proceedings.

MILK SUPPLY.—Owing to the large amount of infectious disease in the East Dean district during 1914, a larger portion of the time of the Sanitary Inspector has been occupied with the work of visiting cases and disinfecting premises than is usually the case, and in consequence only 73 visits have been paid to the dairies and cowsheds in the district. Two cowsheds have been improved, and one dirty one cleansed and its owner warned. There was one conviction for non-registration.

QUARRIES, ETC.—Four unfenced shafts have been made safe under the Quarry Fencing Act, and two smoke nuisances have been abated.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

I have given elsewhere, in tabular form, included in the Sanitary Inspector's statement of work carried out during the year, the particulars required under Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910. Forty-nine houses were inspected under this Act, and 38 remedied. Three closing orders were made, and three made in 1912 were rescinded in consequence of the houses having been made habitable. Thirty-one cases of overcrowding were dealt with, 24 of them being abated. Four statutory notices were served, and four Magistrates' Orders obtained in cases of overcrowding.

In 16 cases it was found necessary to issue notices to have the houses cleansed.

During the year a Public Utility Society has been formed by residents in the district, who propose to take up the shares if the Board of Agriculture will advance the necessary loan. They propose to carry on the work outlined in a previous scheme and afterwards abandoned, under which the Council were to build houses in Cinderford, Ruspidge, Ruardean, Mitcheldean and Longhope, which includes the mining areas. At the time of writing application has been made to the Board of Agriculture for the necessary loan and negotiations are in progress with the Office of Woods and other landowners for the purchase of land.

Unfortunately the Society does not intend to acquire any land for building purposes in either Churcham or Minsterworth, which form the Eastern part of the district, and this is to be regretted as the inspection under the Housing and Town Planning Act has revealed a pressing need for more houses in these two localities, which are chiefly agricultural.

I am indebted to Mr WM. WHITEHOUSE for the following summary of work carried out by his department during 1914.

BUILDING BYE-LAWS.

The six houses in course of erection at the end of 1913 were completed during 1914. Of the two houses not commenced in 1913, one has now been erected, but I assume the other one has been abandoned.

PROPOSED NEW DWELLING HOUSES.

Plans for new dwelling houses submitted to and approved by the Council	18
Number of cottages completed during the year ..	5
Number in course of erection at the end of the year	10
Number not commenced	3

NOTE.—Included in the above particulars is the conversion of one house into two, and the erection of a cottage at Blaisdon to take the place of one taken down.

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS AND ADDITION TO EXISTING HOUSES.

The five houses being enlarged, and the one not commenced at the end of 1913 were duly completed during 1914.

The Lock up business premises in Church Road, Cinderford, not commenced at the end of 1913 have not yet been built nor started.

The alterations and additions to Soudley Chapel, in course of erection at the end of 1913, were duly completed during 1914.

Number of houses proposed to be enlarged from approved plans received during 1914	9
Number of houses where such enlargements were carried out during the year	6
Number in course of construction at the end of the year	3

Plans were also submitted to the Council for the following buildings, and were approved by them :—

AT CINDERFORD.—A rescue station for the Forest of Dean Coal Owners' Association—completed during 1914.

The Conversion of an existing building at Cinderford into a Picture Theatre—completed during the year.

Ditto ditto at Ruardean.

A meeting room for a branch of the I.O. Good Templars at Ruspidge, Cinderford—in course of construction.

WATER SUPPLY.

There has been no scarcity of water in any part of the district which is served by the Council's water mains. While those districts needing a service of mains have not been troubled with scarcity in the same degree as in many former years.

Number of houses supplied from Cinderford

Water Works	2033
-------------	----	----	----	----	----	------

Number of Factories, schools, etc., supplied by

meter	33
-------	----	----	----	----	----	----

No extension of the water mains has been made in any part of our district, but in further reference to the report which I made to you on the work for 1913, the Council have now decided to lay the necessary mains in the Blakeney Hill district, so as to provide house services in lieu of public stand-pipes.

The Council have also decided to supply a considerable number of houses at Drybrook end of Ruardean Parish from Cinderford Water Works mains on certain conditions, but these conditions have not yet been fulfilled.

The Council have agreed to supply several houses in Little Dean Parish which are situated near the boundary of East Dean.

The charges in cases of all supplies to adjoining Parishes is to be 25% greater than that charged to East Dean in consequence of the former not having contributed to the capital charges.

Plans for the extension of the Cinderford Water Works main to Ruardean Hill, Woodside, Pludds and Joys Green, have been completed and ordered to be forwarded to the Local Government Board for approval. The new pumping engine has been fixed at Greenbottom Pumping Station, and the plant for pumping the water to Ruardean Hill and District is practically ready.

With the exception of one short period, the water supplies in Mitcheldean and Littledean Parishes have been fairly good.

DRAINAGE MATTER.

No trouble has been experienced with the sewers in Cinderford and Ruspidge districts, and all the new houses built or being built in these districts have been connected.

Soudley Outfall Works has been managed with more or less success, but as the caretaker personnel has now been changed, I hope to obtain further improvement.

ROADS.

No new roads have been made in the district, but those referred to in my last report are still under consideration.

DANGEROUS AND OFFENSIVE DITCHES.

No further work of this class has been undertaken during the past year, but we hope the whole will be completed during 1915.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE INSPECTION.

I am indebted to Mr L. G. LYNE, Sanitary Inspector, for particulars regarding the routine work of inspection during the year, and also for much information bearing

on the sanitary condition of the district in regard to matters, since settled or nearer settlement, that were under consideration when I left to take up my appointment.

HOUSING :

Plans for new houses approved	0
Houses built	0
Houses for which water certificates were granted under Sec. 6 Public Health (Water) Act, 1875	0
Parishes having deficiency of housing for working classes—East Dean, Littledean, Mitcheldean, Ruardean, and Minsterworth.	
Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—	
Areas inspected—General.	
Houses inspected	49
Houses with defects for which notices were necessary	45
Houses for which notices were served	45
Held over pending completion of inspection	0
Under Sec. 15 Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act	0
No. remedied	0
Under other sections of Public Health Acts ..	45
No. remedied	38
Houses unfit for habitation and made habitable ..	0
Representations made to District Council (Closing Orders)	3
Closing Orders	3
Houses made habitable (1912 orders)	3
Cases of overcrowding reported	31
Cases abated	24
Houses cleansed on notice	16

WATER SUPPLY :

Wells sunk	2
Samples for examination	1

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE :

New drainage to old houses	29
Sewers opened and repaired	6
W.C.'s constructed or repaired	31
Pail closets provided or repaired	23
Privy vaults abolished	21

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

Common Lodging-houses	1	3
Slaughter-houses	21	47
Bakehouses	42	27
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	79	73
Workshops	72	38

GENERAL :

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	119
Nuisances reported to District Council	..	..	..	..	180
Swine	..	..	..	..	6
Nuisances abated	..	..	..	..	153
Statutory notices issued	..	..	..	..	12
Summonses taken out	..	..	..	..	12
Convictions obtained	..	..	..	..	11

(Magistrates dismissed 1 case, as husband of defendant had been fined for another offence.)

INFECTIOUS DISEASE :

Cases visited and reported on	..	..	..	229
Houses in which cases occurred	..	..	..	177
Houses disinfected	..	..	..	175

Methods of disinfection used—Formalin Spray.

The nuisances reported are in addition to those found during the routine house inspection, and the number of Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases visited and disinfected are not included in the summary.

O. W. ANDREWS.

GLOUCESTER RURAL DISTRICT

Composition of District : Parishes of Highnam, Lassington, Longford, Maisemore, Ashleworth, Sandhurst, Norton, Down Hatherley, Churchdown, Barnwood, Hempsted, Matson, Upton St. Leonards, Prinknash, Brockworth, Whaddon, Quedgeley, Twigworth, Tuffley, Hucclecote, Elmore, Wotton St. Mary (Without) and Wotton Vill.

Chairman of Council : W. PRIDAY, ESQ., Brockworth Court, Gloucester.

Clerk to Council : MR H. H. SCOTT, LL.B. Lond., Gloucester.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor : MR F. WEAVER, Lansdown Road, Gloucester.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector : MR C. B. BARNES.

Assessable Value of District, £85,559.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890	..	1891
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part III.		1891

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

New Streets and Buildings, for portions of District		1878
„ „ „ „ whole „		1908
Prevention of Nuisances and Keeping of Animals		1878
Common Lodging Houses	.. ..	1878
Regulations under Dairies, etc., Orders	.. ..	1906

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1901	1911
Area in Acres	30684	30680
Families or separate occupiers	2153	2610
Average No. of persons per separate occupiers	5.01	4.86
Total Population	10779	12615
Males	5081	
Females	5698	

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 41 YEARS.

					Highest No. in 41 years	Lowest ditto
BIRTHS—					1914	
Total	..	..	..	..	226 (1897)	316 (1903) 207
Ratio of Births per 1000 of population					17.0	26.1 (1913) 16.5
DEATHS—						
Small Pox and Chicken Pox	..				0	8 0
Measles	..	..	..	..	0	9 0
Scarlatina	..	..	..	..	0	14 0
Croup and Diphtheria	..				4	21 0
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	2	7 0
Fever	..	..	..	..	0	6 0
Cholera, Diarrhœa and Dysentery	..				1	10 0
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	0	*— —
Total Deaths from all causes†	..				104 (1892)	206 (1881) 97
Ratio of Deaths per 1000 of population					7.9	18.2 (1914) 7.9
Deaths under 5 years of age	..				11	66 11
„ „ 1 „ per 1000 births					40	— —

* In earlier Reports this disease and Erysipelas were grouped together, and it would be difficult now to ascertain their *maxima* and *minima* for the last 41 years. I cannot give the figures for the other blank spaces.

† Exclusive of 147 deaths of persons not belonging to the district, but occurring therein, *viz.*, in the County Asylums at Wotton and Barnwood, in Barnwood Hospital for the Insane, in the Children's Hospital, and in the City Isolation Hospital at Over; and inclusive of 12 deaths of persons belonging to the district and dying in the Infirmary and Union Workhouse situated in the City of Gloucester, as well as in other places outside the district.

BIRTHS AND THE BIRTH-RATE.—There were 226 births registered during 1914, giving a birth-rate of 17.0, which is very little better than that of 16.5 for 1913—the lowest birth rate recorded in the district. The rate compares very unfavourably with that of 21.9 for Rural England and Wales.

In the Gloucester Rural District, however, there are several large Institutions for the care of the Insane, and several small Institutions, *i.e.*, the Gloucester City Isolation Hospital and the Children's Hospital at Over, whose inhabitants chiefly belong to other districts, and the inclusion of this unproductive outside population in the population of the district materially affects the birth and death-rates. According to the Census of 1911 there were 1653 persons residing in these Institutions when the Census was taken, and if we deduct from this number the attendants and their families, numbering about 297 persons, we have a reduction in the population of the district of

1356 persons, chiefly insane adults and sick children from outside the district, which gives us a corrected birth-rate of 19.9, and compares rather more favourably with the rate for Rural England and Wales.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate			Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	12247	223		18.2	282	23.0	173	19	13	58	128	10.4
1910	12431	234		18.8	260	20.9	165	20	11	47	115	9.2
1911	12615	215	217	17.2	261	20.6	146	23	18	82	138	10.9
1912	12799	225	226	17.6	277	21.6	159	22	20	88	140	10.9
1913	13047	214	216	16.5	271	20.7	153	16	11	50	134	10.2
1914	13230	226	226	17.0	242	18.2	150	12	9	40	104	7.9

Area of District in Acres 30,684
Total Population (Census 1911) 12,615
No. of Inhabited Houses (Census 1911) 2,610
Average No. of persons per house (Census 1911) 4.8

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE.—The number of deaths registered in the district was 242, giving a gross rate of 18.2, which, corrected by the factor for this district, gives a standardised rate of 16.1. There were, however, 150 persons died in the district, chiefly in the asylums already mentioned, who did not belong to it, and 12 persons belonging to the district who died outside it ; and if we qualify the gross deaths registered in the district by these figures, we get a net rate of 7.9, which is the lowest since the district was formed. If, however, we correct this by reducing the figures for the population by the number of sick or insane residents in the Institutions within it who belong to other districts, we have a death-rate of 8.9. These rates compare favourably with the rate for Rural England and Wales, which is 12.2.

MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES AND ITS CAUSES.

Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages																												
CAUSES OF DEATH	All causes—certified 101 unecertified 3	All ages																										
		Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Norton	Upton St. Leonards	Maisemore	Hucclecote	Churchdown	Barnwood	Brockworth	Wotton Without	Whaddon	Quedgley	Longford	Ashleworth	Highnam	Sandhurst	Elmore	Rest of District			
Enteric Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Measles ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Scarlet Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Whooping Cough ..	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Diphtheria and Croup ..	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1		
Influenza ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Erysipelas ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Phthisis—Pulmonary ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Tuberculosis ..	8	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other Tuberculous Diseases 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Cancer, Malignant Disease 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	10	3	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Rheumatic Fever ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Organic Heart Disease ..	25	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	7	15	2	2	1	4	5	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1		
Bronchitis ..	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0		
Pneumonia, all forms ..	5	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Other Diseases of ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Respiratory organs ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Appendicitis & Typhlitis ..	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Nephritis and Bright's ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Disease ..	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
Other Accidents and ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Diseases of Pregnancy ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
and Parturition ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Congenital Debility and ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Malformation, including ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Premature Birth ..	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Violent Deaths, excluding ..	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Suicide ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Suicide ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other Defined Diseases ..	18	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	13	0	2	1	2	1	1	0	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
Diseases ill-defined or ..	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
unknown ..	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
All causes ..	104	9	1	1	3	6	9	27	48	6	12	5	10	15	4	4	14	5	5	6	3	3	6	3	3	3		
SUB-ENTRIES, included ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
in above figures ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
														Wotton Vil	100	29	8	10	147	0								
														Barnwood House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
														St. Lucy's Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
														Infectious Diseases Hospital, Over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
														Total Deaths in Institutions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

There were two deaths from whooping cough, both children under 1 year, and three deaths from diphtheria.

The three deaths from diphtheria occurred in different parts of the district, and had no connection with each other. That at Churchdown was a child of 6, who died the day the case was notified, and that at Elmore was a child aged 8. In both cases the houses were poor, and the drainage unsatisfactory.

The Elmore case was removed to hospital, but unfortunately died.

The third death was that of a child at Hempsted, who was notified as having scarlet fever, but later developed diphtheria and died. No defects were found in the premises themselves, and the family had not been using Severn water, as water was being sent from Gloucester by cart. Four other members of the family, including the mother, had been notified as having scarlet fever within a few days of this child falling ill.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There were 8 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year, and one from other tubercular disease. This is about the average for the Gloucester Rural District for the ten years 1904 to 1913, which is 7·2 for pulmonary tuberculosis, and 2·4 for other tubercular disease.

Four of the deaths had not been notified recently; at all events, not in 1913 or 1914. They were :—

No. 1.	Aged 27	(M)	Jobbing Printer
„ 2.	„ 21	(M)	Draper's Assistant
„ 3.	„ 44	(M)	Commercial Clerk
„ 4.	„ 33	(F)	Married. Domestic.

The notified cases were :—

No. 1.	Aged 58 (M)	Iron Planer, notified April, 1913, died July, 1914
„ 2	„ 68 (M)	Farm Labourer „ May, 1914 „ June, 1914
„ 3	„ 18 (M)	Postal Clerk „ May, 1914 „ Oct., 1914
„ 4	„ 35 (M)	Builder's Labr. „ Dec. 25, 1914 „ Dec. 28, 1914

In no case is there any record of Sanatorium treatment having been tried.

CANCER.—There were 14 deaths from cancer, compared with 19 deaths in 1913.

HEART DISEASE caused 25 deaths, compared with 19 in 1913.

PNEUMONIA.—The number dying from pneumonia was 5, exactly the same as in 1913.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—There were no deaths from puerperal fever during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY.

	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All causes—certified 9 uncertified 0										
Whooping Cough	.. 0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	2..	0	2
Bronchitis ..	.. 0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Pneumonia ..	.. 0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	1..	0	1
Enteritis ..	.. 0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	1..	0..	0	1
Congenital										
Malformations	.. 0..	1..	0..	0	1	0..	0..	0..	0	1
Premature Birth	.. 2..	0..	0..	0	2	0..	0..	0..	0	2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	.. 1..	0..	1..	0	2	0..	0..	0..	0	2
Other causes	.. 0..	0..	0..	0	0	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Total ..	.. 3..	1..	1..	0	5	0..	1..	3..	0	9

Births in the year—Legitimate, 223 ; Illegitimate, 3

Deaths in the year—Legitimate, 9 ; Illegitimate, 0

INFANT MORTALITY.—There were 9 deaths, giving a rate of 40 per thousand, compared with 93 for Rural England and Wales. All the deaths were certified, and none of the children were illegitimate. Both the deaths from whooping cough were infants of 7 months, belonging to different parts of the district.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

		All ages								Wotton [Vill																
			Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Wotton	County Asylum, Wotton	Barnwood	Longlevens	Longford	Quedgley	Hempsted	Maisemore	Elmore	Churchdown	Whaddon	Upton St. Leonards	Brockworth	Rest of District	Occurred in or	Removed to Hospital	
Diphtheria—																										
including Mem-																										
branous Croup.	15	0..	3..	9..	3..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	3..	0..	1..	2..	2..	3..	2..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2	4		
Erysipelas	.. 1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0		
Scarlet Fever	.. 61	2..	11..	32..	9..	7..	0..	0	17..	6..	6..	6..	3..	0..	5..	1..	0..	8..	3..	1..	0..	5	11			
Enteric Fever	.. 4	0..	0..	0..	3..	1..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	2..	1..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	2			
Puerperal Fever	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0			
Cerebro Spinal																										
Meningitis	.. 1	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0			
Poliomyelitis	.. 0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0			
Ophthalmia																										
Neonatorium	.. 1	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0			
Pul Tuberculosis	17	0..	0..	3..	3..	9..	2..	0	3..	2..	1..	1..	2..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	1..	3..	2	10			
Other forms of																										
Tuberculosis	.. 3	0..	0..	1..	0..	2..	0..	0	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0			
All causes	..103	3..	15..	45..	18..	19..	3..	0	21..	8..	8..	12..	6..	3..	9..	3..	4..	11..	3..	3..	3..	9	28			

Isolation Hospital—Over Hospital, Gloucester Urban.
Sanatorium—Cranham Lodge, near Stroud

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

There has been a certain amount of diphtheria in the District, though the number of cases notified during the year is a marked reduction on 1913, notably in Churchdown, where only 2 compared with 21 cases in 1913 have occurred during 1914. It is interesting to note that the new sewerage scheme was completed during 1914, and it is hoped that with improved drainage in Churchdown, where hitherto diphtheria appears to have been endemic, that cases of this disease will cease to appear. Unfortunately, there was again one fatal case of diphtheria in Churchdown. Norton last year had 9 cases notified, but this year has none.

ERYSIPELAS.—Only one case was notified during the year. For the first time since 1905 there have been no cases of erysipelas notified from the Asylums.

SCARLET FEVER.—There was a marked increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever notified during the year.

Fortunately, it appears to have been of a mild type, and there were no deaths from it. Eleven of the cases were removed to hospital.

ENTERIC FEVER.—There were four cases of enteric fever notified, none of them coming from the Asylums. All the cases were notified in September. The first, notified on September 12th, occurred in one of the houses on the Upper Rea, Hempsted, and the family had been using Severn Water without first boiling it. The second case, notified on September 21st, was a girl of 14 from Longford, who was admitted to the Children's Hospital, supposed to be suffering from rheumatism. The second and third cases, both adults, were notified on September 29th, one from Longlevens and one from Longford, and the latter was removed to Hospital. The outbreak could not be traced to any of the premises.

There was one case of cerebro-spinal meningitis at Elmore, which was visited, and one case of ophthalmia neonatorum at Quedgley.

On receipt of the notification of the case of cerebro-spinal fever I at once visited Elmore and made a careful investigation and house to house visitation. The first case reported occurred in the person of W—— B——, aged 4 of Elmore Back, and was treated in the Royal Infirmary, Gloucester, where I saw him, in consultation with one of the medical officers of the Hospital. There were several other cases highly suggestive of cerebro-spinal fever but of an exceedingly mild type.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—34 notifications have been received during the year, referring to 20 cases, three of which were first notified during 1913, and the notifications concerning them received this year have been advices that they had been admitted into or discharged from Sanatoria. I have not included these cases in the table of infectious diseases. The number of cases notified is a very big increase over 1913, and they came from all parts of the district. Of the 17 fresh cases notified, 10 have been admitted to Sanatoria and 9 discharged during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

Notifications	Cases	Suspects	Children in same house
Scarlet Fever	11	7	9
Diphtheria	9	—	17
Measles	29	16	17
Whooping-Cough ..	50	—	—
Chicken-Pox	8	2	2
Ringworm	8	—	—
Verminous	6	—	—
Others	3	—	—

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

Name of School	Disease	1st day of Closure	Last day of Closure	No. of School days closed
Over, Highnam and Linton, Highnam C.of E.	Wh.-Cough. & Ch.-Pox	26-3-14	9-4-14	11
Elmore C. of E. ..	Measles ..	23-7-14	31-7-14	7
Barnwood C. of E.	Sc. Fever ..	15-10-14	30-10-14	12

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—There has been no change in the arrangements in force when the last Report was written. Where necessary, patients have been sent to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Over, as previously.

I am indebted to Mr Herbert Scott for the following information.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Steady progress has been made during the year in carrying out inspections under the Housing Acts. In December, 1913, the Council appointed Mr C. B. Barnes to be Assistant Surveyor, and this has been of great assistance in carrying out not only work under the Housing and Town Planning Act, but in the general Sanitary and Highway work of the district also.

SEWERAGE AND WATER.

No fresh schemes for sewerage or the supply of water are on foot, but the schemes for sewerage and water supply in the Parish of Churchdown, referred to in the Report for 1913, were both completed during the year, and house connections are being rapidly made.

With regard to Longlevens and Tuffley, steps have been taken to prevent the pollution of wells, with satisfactory results.

During August I made a Report to the Council on the part of Churchdown in which the death from diphtheria had occurred. From time to time there have been cases of diphtheria reported from this part of Churchdown ; and there was a serious nuisance existing, consisting of a midden, bricked in and covered over with a galvanised roof. This midden receives all the house refuse and contents of pail closets (privy buckets) from those houses in the immediate neighbourhood having no garden, and has been known to overflow, with danger to the water supply—only 11 yards distant. In front of the house is an open water course, which receives the slop water from the cottages which are near it, and unless this watercourse is frequently flushed, it becomes at certain seasons offensive ; and now that Churchdown has its own Sewerage System I would advise that these houses should be connected up to it.

Early in August last, just before the outbreak of hostilities, I visited Hempsted with Mr Hurry and Mr Weaver, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, with regard to the water supply of certain houses in Upper Rea and reported to the Council on the subject. The water supply of these cottages is not as satisfactory as one would wish. The newer houses are supplied by two new shallow wells, sunk through 2 inches of grit into the lower lias clay ; one well is immediately in the rear of the dwellings, and the other, connected with it by a lead pipe, is situated at the end of the garden, and the collecting area for both wells is very unsatisfactory. Near the old cottages there is another well, about 30 ft. deep, and connected with the shallow wells ; but water can only be obtained from it by a pump, which is in need of repair, and the inhabitants of the houses must either use the shallow wells liable to surface pollution especially when there is a rise in the river Severn, or get their water from a brook a short distance away, which rises in the Horsepool Hills, runs through the village of Whaddon, and is liable to pollution by cattle. Arrangements were under consideration for an improved supply to these houses when I left to take up my war appointment.

As pointed out in previous Reports, the houses on the Lower Rea are supplied with water by means of a water cart during the dry weather, as they are some distance from a supply other than that obtained by shallow wells sunk in the lias clay, or from the river itself.

There does not appear to have been any great distress in the district caused by the dislocation of local industries owing to the War. Mr H. Scott, who is Hon. Sec. of the Gloucester Rural Subsidiary Committee, informs me that on each occasion when making the fortnightly returns, he has had to send in a nil return.

The following is a summary of routine work done during the year, for which I am indebted to MR WEAVER, the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

HOUSING :

Plans for new houses approved	9
Houses built	7
Houses for which water certificates were granted under Sec. 6 Public Health (Water) Act, 1875	3
Housing, Town Planning, Act, 1909, Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—	
Areas inspected—parts of Upton St. Leonards, Elmore, Churchdown, Hempsted, Longford, Matson and Whaddon.	
Houses inspected	174
Houses with defects for which notices were necessary	53
Houses for which notices were served—	
(a) Under Sec. 15 Housing, Town Planning Act, 1909. Preliminary Notices	53
No. remedied	41
(b) Under other Sections of Public Health Acts	10
No. remedied	—
And, in addition, cleared off from 1913	—
Houses unfit for habitation	1
No. made habitable	1
Representations to District Council	0
Closing Orders	0
Demolition Orders	0
Cases of overcrowding reported	2
No. abated	2
Houses cleansed on notice	6

WATER SUPPLY :

New connections with Public Supply	3
Wells sunk or improved 4 improved	7 sunk
Samples for examination	4

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE :

In what Parishes (if any) is there need for

- (1) A sewerage system ?
- (2) Improvements in existing sewerage ?
- (3) Improvement in sewage disposal ?

Tuffley, Upton St. Leonards, Hempsted and Longlevens.

Houses newly connected with sewers	..	..	9
W.C.'s newly supplied with flushing cisterns	..	..	9
Earth closets, pail closets or improved privies constructed	..	..	12
Privy vaults abolished	..	..	8

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

	No. on register.	No. inspected
Slaughter-houses	4	4
Bakehouses	14	14
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	90	90
Workshops	29	29
Residences of outworkers	0	0

GENERAL :

Complaints received	..	..	11
Nuisances reported to District Council	..	..	45
Swine	..	..	0
Nuisances abated	..	30, and 10 cleared off from 1913	
Preliminary Notices served	..	..	40
Statutory notices issued	..	..	0

INFECTIOUS DISEASE :

Cases visited and reported on	..	..	87
Houses in which cases occurred	..	..	60
Houses disinfected	..	..	60
Methods of disinfection used—fumigation and lime-wash, where necessary.			

O. W. ANDREWS.

LYDNEY RURAL DISTRICT

Composition of District : The Parishes of Lydney, Aylburton, Alvington, St. Briavels, Hewelsfield, Lancaut, Tidenham and Woolaston.

Chairman of Council : WILLIAM JONES, ESQ., The Moorlands, Lydney.

Clerk of Council : MR J. FOTHERGILL EVANS, Solicitor, Chepstow.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor : MR G. J. ELLIOTT, Lydney.

Assessable Value of District, £50,858.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

	Adopted
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, certain sections	1910
Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 ..	1895
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part III.	1896
Regulations under Cowsheds and Dairies Orders 1885-6	Not

Bye-Laws :—

New Streets and Buildings (Lydney U) ..	1892
„ „ „ Remainder (R) ..	1900
Prevention of Nuisances (Lydney)	1892
Common Lodging-houses	1892
Slaughter-houses (Lydney)	1892

The District consists of the Gloucestershire portion of the Chepstow Poor Law Union, which was separated from the remainder of that Union for sanitary purposes in 1894, but is still united with Chepstow for Poor Law purposes.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1901	1911
Families or separate Occupiers ..	1908	2052
Average No. of persons per separate Occupier	4.53	4.38
Area—acres	24634	24554
Population	8649	9005
Males	4291	
Females	4358	

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 21 YEARS.

	1914	Highest No. in 21 years	Lowest ditto
BIRTHS—			
Males	92	139	94
Females	94	135	82
Total	186	265	181
Ratio of Births per 1000 of population .	20.3 (1902)	30.4 (1911)	20.1 (1911)
DEATHS—			
Small Pox	0	0	0
Measles	0	4	0
Scarlatina	1	1	0
Croup and Diphtheria	1	9	0
Whooping Cough	0	7	0
Typhoid Fever	0	8	0
Cholera, Diarrhœa and Dysentery ..	0	5	0
Gastritis and Enteritis	1	—*	—*
Puerperal Fever	0	1	0
Erysipelas	0	1	0
Total Deaths from all causes ..	113	133	91
Ratio of Deaths per 1000 of population	12.3 (1904)	15.1 (1899)	10.6 (1900)
Deaths under 5 years of age	12	43	13
,, ,, 1 year ,, per 1000 births	53	138	42

* I am unable to give these figures

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate			Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	8933	238		26·6	81	9·0	0	16	10	42	97	10·7
1910	8969	203		22·6	120	13·3	2	6	16	78	124	13·8
1911	9005	179	181	20·1	105	11·6	1	14	18	99	118	13·1
1912	9041	204	204	22·5	96	10·6	0	21	13	63	117	12·9
1913	9086	196	197	21·6	100	11·0	5	15	11	55	110	12·1
1914	9122	184	186	20·3	99	10·8	0	14	10	53	113	12·2

Area of District in Acres	24,554
Total population at all ages (1911) ..	9,005
Number of inhabited houses (1911) ..	2,052
Average No. of persons per house (1911) ..	4·38

BIRTHS AND THE BIRTH-RATE.—There were 184 births registered in the district, to which must be added two births belonging to the district, but taking place outside it, giving a rate of 20·3, which is lower than that of 21·9 for Rural England and Wales. Nine of the births were illegitimate children.

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE.—The total number of deaths registered in the district is 99, giving a crude rate of 10·8, and if we multiply this by the factor for the district we get a standardised rate of 9·9. To the 99 deaths registered in the district, however, must be added 14 deaths of residents occurring outside it, and this gives a nett rate of 12·2, which is slightly below that of 12·3 for Rural England and Wales.

The one death from Enteric Fever was that of a sailor, whose home was at Woolaston, and who arrived home from New York early in September in a state of collapse.

The medical attendant was uncertain whether the case was really typhoid, and sent up a sample of blood for bacteriological examination. The result confirmed his suspicion, and the man was removed to Hospital. Unfortunately, however, he died.

There was one death from Scarlet Fever—a child of two, living in one of the better class houses in the neighbourhood. The mother and two other children also were notified. There was nothing on the premises to account for the outbreak.

There was 1 death from Diphtheria, but the source of infection could not be traced.

There were 3 deaths from Phthisis, and in no case does sanatorium treatment seem to have been tried.

MORTALITY AT ALL AGES AND ITS CAUSES.

DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.																	Deaths in Institutions
CAUSES OF DEATHS	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Lydney	Aylburton	St. Briavels	Woolaston	Alvington	Hewelsfield	Tidenham	
All causes—certified	113																
„ „ uncertified	0																
Enteric Fever ..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	1
Scarlet Fever ..	1	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Diphtheria & Croup	1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Influenza ..	5	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	4	0..	2..	0..	0..	1..	0..	2	0
Erysipelas ..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Phthisis—Pulmonary																	
Tuberculosis ..	3	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	1..	1	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	1	0
Tuberculosis—																	
Meningitis ..	1	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Other Tuberculous																	
Diseases ..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	0
Cancer, Malignant																	
Disease ..	10	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	4..	5	3..	0..	2..	2..	0..	0..	3	0
Rheumatic Fever ..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Meningitis ..	1	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0
Organic Heart Disease	20	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	3..	11..	6	11..	1..	2..	0..	2..	0..	4	0
Bronchitis ..	8	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..	6	3..	2..	2..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Pneumonia—																	
all forms ..	3	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1	1..	1..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	0
Other diseases of re-																	
spiratory organs	3	2..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	0..	1..	1..	0..	0..	1	0
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Appendicitis																	
and Typhlitis ..	1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	3	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	2..	0	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1	0
Nephritis and Brights																	
Disease ..	4	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..	2	4..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Puerperal Fever ..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Other Accidents and																	
Diseases of																	
Pregnancy and																	
Parturition ..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Congenital Debility																	
and Malformation,																	
including ..																	
Premature Birth	5	5..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	1..	2..	0..	0..	0..	2	0
Violent Deaths,																	
excluding Suicide	6	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	3..	3..	0	2..	0..	2..	0..	1..	0..	1	1
Other Defined																	
Diseases ..	27	0..	1..	0..	2..	1..	3..	7..	13	12..	3..	3..	1..	1..	1..	6	2
Diseases ill-defined																	
or unknown ..	7	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	6	2..	1..	1..	1..	0..	1..	1	0
	113	10..	1..	2..	4..	5..	12..	34..	45	43..	12..	15..	7..	7..	4..	25	5
SUB-ENTRIES,																	
included in above																	
figures—	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0

INFANT MORTALITY.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
All causes—											
Certified		10									
Uncertified		0									
Meningitis	..	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 1	.. 0	.. 1
Laryngitis	..	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 1	.. 1
Pneumonia	..	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 1	.. 0	.. 0	.. 1
Gastritis	..	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 1	.. 0	.. 1
Premature Birth	..	.. 1	.. 1	.. 0	.. 0	.. 2	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	..	.. 3	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 3	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 3
Other causes	..	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 0	.. 1	.. 1
Total		.. 4	.. 1	.. 0	.. 0	.. 5	.. 0	.. 1	.. 2	.. 2	.. 10

Births in the year—Legitimate, 177 ; Illegitimate, 9

Deaths in the year—Legitimate, 8 ; Illegitimate, 2

INFANT MORTALITY.—There were 10 deaths of infants, two of them being illegitimate. All the deaths were certified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

Cases notified in District									Cases notified in each Locality							Removed to Hospital
DISEASES	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	Lydney	Aylburton	Alvington	Woolaston	Tidenham	Hewelsfield	St. Briavels	
Diphtheria, including—																
Membranous Croup	3	0..	0..	3..	0..	0..	0..	0	3..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Erysipelas ..	.. 5	0..	0..	0..	1..	1..	2..	1	2..	2..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	0
Scarlet Fever ..	..75	0..	11..	48..	11..	5..	0..	0	3..	1..	1..	8..	48..	14..	0	59
Enteric Fever ..	.. 1	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	0..	0..	1..	2..	3..	0..	0	2..	0..	0..	1..	2..	1..	0	0
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	.. 1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	2
Totals ..	..92	1..	11..	52..	15..	10..	2..	1	11..	3..	1..	11..	50..	15..	1	62

Isolation Hospital—Alvington.

Sanatorium—Cranham Lodge, Stroud.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA.—Only three cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, and none of them were sent to Hospital. In one case the child had only just returned from a visit to Barry, and in none of the cases were the premises insanitary.

SCARLET FEVER.—There were 75 cases of scarlet fever, compared with 60 in 1914; 59 of them were sent to Hospital. One of the cases was a soldier from the Red Cross Hospital at Lydney, and he was removed to the Isolation Hospital. The disease seems to have been generally of a very mild type, and undoubtedly in many instances the infection was spread owing to cases of slight illness not being considered sufficiently important to incur the cost of medical attention, and in this way unrecognised cases have been conveying the infection from one child to another.

There were 6 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, one being admitted to, and discharged from, the Sanatorium during the year. One of the cases notified during 1913 was also admitted to and discharged from the Sanatorium during the year.

Notifications			Cases	Suspects	Children in same house		
Scarlet Fever	..	..	36	.. 7	..	..	57
Diphtheria	..	..	2	.. 0	..	..	4
Measles	..	..	4	.. 0	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	15	.. 2	..	..	4
Chicken Pox..	..	..	5	.. 0	..	..	0
Mumps	..	..	21	.. 2	..	..	0
Ringworm	..	..	20	.. 0	..	..	0
Impetigo	..	..	52	.. 0	..	..	0
Verminous	..	..	2	.. 0	..	..	0
Scabies	..	..	3	.. 0	..	..	0
Others	..	..	3	.. 0	..	..	0

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

Name of School	Disease	1st day of Closure	Last day of Closure	No. of School days closed
NIL				

Tidenham and Woolaston Schools were thoroughly cleansed and disinfected after outbreaks of scarlet fever.

HOSPITAL.—The Hospital has accommodation for 16 beds, and has generally been sufficient, though it has been taxed more than usual this year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

	1914	1915
Total cost to Mar. 31st	£414 9 6	£425 17 7
Cost per patient exclusive of staff	5 6 4	4 13 11
Cost per head including staff ..	4 19 1	4 10 9
Amount estimated for Public Health, April, 1914	£435	
Actually expended	425 17 7	

Number of patients treated in Hospital	55	68
Number of days patients and staff were in Hospital ..	3646	4210
Estimated cost per patient per day		2/0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Improved housing for the working-classes is developing slowly, building being chiefly of the better class houses. Of the 10 new houses erected in 1914, 8 have been built by the owners for their own occupation, and it is surprising that in a place where the average earnings are so good a greater number of the better paid skilled workmen do not do this.

WATER.—The Water Supply is obtained by means of an adit through the old red sandstone, and is pumped into covered reservoirs, where there is practically no danger of pollution. The water is distributed to the consumer through surface mains.

SEWAGE.—The river Lyd runs through the town, but the sewage is not emptied into it. The sewage is discharged into the River Severn at low tide.

SCAVENGING.—There has been no alteration in the arrangement in force when the report for 1913 was written.

I give the following extracts from Mr G. Elliott's report to the Council for the year 1914 :—

There are six slaughter houses in the district, to which I have made 21 visits of inspection.

There are 17 bakehouses in the various parishes, and to these I have made 43 visits. I have had occasion to call for limewashing in two instances.

Forty-one factories and workshops, including laundries, are registered, an increase of one on my last report. I have, however, only visited each place once during the year. In view of the fact that there are no factories, in the ordinary sense of the term, except the Tinsplate Works, and no outdoor workers to my knowledge, the details of the work resolve themselves mainly into a supervision amongst tailors, bakehouses, and sempstresses.

There are no common lodging houses in any part of your district. There have been no seizures of unsound food, but on two occasions I was voluntarily called to condemn some food-stuffs, which were destroyed in my presence.

No police court proceedings were instituted against any person during the year.

There are 30 registered milk sellers within your district, to which I have made 62 visits of inspection. Improvements have been carried out to the cowsheds of Allaston Farm, Lydney, and to Stroud Farm, Tidenham. Speaking generally, there is a distinct improvement throughout the district with respect to the cleanliness of the cowsheds, though comparatively there are few cows tied up. I have no cause to make serious complaint or to bring any milk-seller to your notice, and the steady improvements carried out yearly by the owners of the Lydney, Clanna, and Sedbury estates are gratifying.

No new water supplies have been provided in any part of your district, but seven wells have been improved. Eight fresh connections have been made with the Lydney mains, and your Isolation Hospital connected with the

Alvington parish supply. I am not aware of any house connection having been made in the Woolaston parish mains.

No new sewers have been provided in any part of your district; 17 new house drains have replaced obsolete and insanitary systems, and 23 choked drains have been unstopped, six new earth closets have been built, and 12 improved, and 13 earth closets converted into water closets. In 17 instances I have had to request occupiers to empty their privy vaults. I have also dealt with nine heaps of offensive rubbish, and four nuisances caused by the keeping of pigs.

Fifty houses have been disinfected after removal of patients to hospital.

Plans for ten new houses have been approved by your Council, as against 14 last year. Plans for alteration and additions to six existing houses were also approved, as against three last year. In addition, plans of a lock-up shop and printing works at Lydney were also passed. Under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, I have inspected 193 houses in the parish of Lydney, where I have now completed 539 houses. I had hoped to have completed Lydney last year, but was unable to do so. I have had 12 houses considerably improved under this inspection, and without serving formal notices upon the owners, and one cottage at Tidenham was closed after I had written to the owner complaining of its condition. Slight improvements have been effected to 19 houses I visited, more especially with regard to damp floors and walls. A movement has been set on foot in Lydney whereby a few houses of the working-class type are likely to be erected. It seems to my mind that there are two ways of approaching the subject of necessary accommodation for the working classes. The wrong way is to erect a structure, and then fit human beings into it; the right way is to ascertain the requirements of human beings and then to provide for them in the structure to be erected. Here

we come to the debatable question of the number of habitable rooms to be provided in a cottage. If the dwelling is constructed to meet the minimum demand it will prove insufficient for the maximum demand of the family. One of the most reluctant acts to take is to be compelled to turn an increasing family out of an inexpensive dwelling, and anyone who has to take this unpopular course is not to be envied. Should the Lydney scheme come to fruition, I trust the houses will be constructed to house a family, not a part of a family, or the smallest family. but rather the average sized and even a large family.

As in past years I have again to express my obligations to yourself, Mr Chairman, to your Vice-Chairman, and the members of your Board generally. I am cognisant of all the help afforded me by your Clerk and Mr Croker, and my colleague, Mr Garland, and I wish to place on record my deep appreciation of the loyal co-operation of Nurse Fenwick, and the staff of your Isolation Hospital. It would ill-become me to close my report without a reference to my superior officer and your Medical Officer of Health, with whom it has been a pleasure to work, and who is at the present time facing all the dangers of war, and to say I am prepared to work unceasingly in order that no part of his duties as regards the public health shall be neglected.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. J. ELLIOTT,

Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE WORK.

The following is a Summary of the routine work of inspection, as supplied by MR ELLIOTT, the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :—

HOUSING :

Plans for new houses approved	.. .. .	10
Houses built	.. .. .	10
Houses for which water certificates were granted under Sec. 6 Public Health (Water) Act, 1875		6
Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—		

Areas inspected during 1914—Lydney.

Houses inspected	193
Houses with defects for which notices were necessary	6
Houses for which notices were served—	
Under Section 15 Housing, &c., Act 1909 ..	6
Under other Sections of Public Health Acts ..	37
No. remedied	37
Houses unfit for habitation, voluntarily closed ..	1
Houses made habitable without closing orders ..	0
Representations to District Council	1
Closing Orders	0
Demolition Orders	0
Houses demolished	0
Cases of overcrowding reported	2
Cases abated	2
Cleansed on notice	0

WATER SUPPLY :

Houses connected with public supply	8
Wells closed	0
Samples taken for examination	0

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE :

Houses newly connected with sewers	8
W.C.'s newly supplied with flushing cisterns ..	8
Earth closets, pail closets or improved privies provided	18
Notices to empty privy vaults served	17
No. of privy vaults abolished	12

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

	No. on Register.	No. Inspections
Slaughter-houses	6	21
Bakehouses	17	43
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	30	30
Workshops	41	41

GENERAL :

Complaints received	3
No of nuisances reported to District Council ..	19
Nuisances abated	96
Preliminary notices served	43
Statutory notices issued	6
Summonses taken out	0
Convictions obtained	0

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :

Cases visited and reported on	84
Houses in which cases occurred	53
Houses disinfected	53
Methods of disinfection used. Spraying machine (Formaldehyde).	
Isolation Hospital. Changes made in existing arrangements	None

O. W. ANDREWS.

AWRE URBAN DISTRICT

Composition of District : The Parish of Awre, including the villages of Blakeney and Awre.

Chairman of Council : E. CLISSOLD, Esq., Hagloe House, Glos.

Clerk to Council : MR M. F. CARTER, Solicitor, Newnham.

Sanitary Inspector : Mr H. HOOK, Westbury-on-Severn.

Rateable Value £9,776.

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

		Adopted
Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890	..	1891
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	..	1891
<i>Regulations</i> :		
Dairies, Cowsheds, &c., Orders, 1885-6	..	1910
<i>Bye-Laws</i> :		
Slaughter-houses	.. .. .	1883
New Streets and Buildings	.. .. .	1883
Removal of Nuisances and Keeping of Animals		1883
Common Lodging-houses	.. .. .	1883

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1901	1911
Average No. of persons per separate occupier	4·25	4·05
Area in acres	4329	4317
Inhabited houses	258	264
Total tenements	255	
Ditto of less than 5 rooms	110	
Total population	1096	1070
Males	524	
Females	572	
Average number of persons per 100 acres		25

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 41 YEARS.

	1914	Highest No. in 41 years	Lowest ditto
BIRTHS—			
Total	16	(1877) 44	(1910) 16
Ratio of Births per 1000 of population	15	32.6	14.9
DEATHS—			
Scarlet Fever	1	(1876) 3	0
Whooping Cough	2	1	0
Measles	0	2	0
Diphtheria	0	(1889) 3	0
Diarrhœa	0	2	0
Puerperal Fever	0	(1877) 1	0
Continued Fever	0	(1876) 1	0
Total Zymotic Deaths	0	(1876) 6	0
Ratio per 1000 of population ..	0.0	0.5	0
Total deaths from all causes ..	15	33	6
Ratio of deaths per 1000 of population	14.1	24.4	5.0
Deaths under 5 years of age ..	2	12.0	0
„ „ I „ per 1000 births	62	—*	0

* I am unable to supply these figures.

There is a marked decrease in the number of births registered during the year, (16,) giving a rate of 15.0.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate			Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	1075	22		20.4	12	11.1	0	2	1	45	14	13.0
1910	1072	16		14.9	11	10.2	0	4	0	0	15	14.0
1911	1070	26	26	24.3	19	17.7	0	1	0	0	20	18.6
1912	1067	16	16	14.9	6	5.6	0	4	1	62	10	9.3
1913	1064	27	27	25.4	7	6.5	0	6	1	37	13	12.2
1914	1061	16	0	15.0	12	11.2	0	3	1	62	15	14.1

Area of District in Acres 4,317
Total Population at all ages (1911).. 1,074
No. of inhabited houses (1911) .. 264
Average No. of persons per house (1911) 4.05

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE.—There were 12 deaths registered in the district during the year from all causes, giving a crude rate of 11·2, which, on being corrected by the factors for the district, is reduced to 10·0.

There were 3 deaths of residents dying outside, and these bring the nett rate up to 14·1, which does not compare so favourably with that of 12·2 for Rural England and Wales.

MORTALITY AT ALL AGES.

DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT
AT SUBJOINED AGES.

CAUSES OF DEATH	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Awre	Brain's Green	Blakeney
All causes—												
Certified	15											
Uncertified	0											
Scarlet Fever	.. 1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..1		0
Whooping Cough	.. 2	1..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	1..1		0
Cancer	.. 2	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1	0..1		1
Heart	.. 1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	1..0		0
Other Diseases of												
Respiratory organs	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..1		0
Nephritis and												
Bright's Disease	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0..0		1
Congenital Debility												
and Malformation												
including Pre-												
mature Births	.. 0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..0		0
Violent Deaths	.. 2	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..	0..	0	1..0		1
Other defined												
Diseases	.. 4	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	4	2..0		2
Diseases undefined												
or unknown	.. 1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..0		1
All causes	..15	1..	1..	0..	1..	0..	3..	2..	7	5..4		6

The death from scarlet fever was that of a girl living at Brain's Green ; her elder brother was also notified as having scarlet fever, and both were removed to the Isolation Hospital, where, unfortunately, the girl died. There was nothing on the premises to account for the outbreak.

There were two deaths from whooping cough—both very young children.

There were two deaths from violence belonging to the district, one a case of drowning, and the other a colliery accident at the Eastern United Coal Mine at Ruspidge.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total
All causes—										
Certified ..	1									
Uncertified	0									
Whooping Cough	..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1

Births in the year —Legitimate, 16 ; Illegitimate, 0

Deaths in the year—Legitimate, 1 ; Illegitimate, 0

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1914

DISEASES	At all ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	Blakeney	Removed to hospital
Scarlet Fever ..	3	0 ..	0 ..	2 ..	0 ..	1 ..	0 ..	0	3	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1	0 ..	0 ..	0 ..	0 ..	0 ..	1 ..	0	1	0
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	1	0 ..	0 ..	1 ..	0 ..	0 ..	0 ..	0	1	0
Totals ..	5	0 ..	0 ..	3 ..	0 ..	1 ..	1 ..	0	5	3

Isolation Hospital—Joint with East Dean, Newnham and Westbury, at Greenbottom, Littledean, near Newnham, Glos.

Sanatoria—Cranham Lodge, Stroud.

One of the three cases of scarlet fever ended fatally. All three cases were notified from the Blakeney part of the district, which borders on Blakeney Hill and Viney Hill portion of the East Dean District occupied by a colliery population, many of the children from this part of East Dean attending school at Blakeney. In East Dean there has been an extensive outbreak of scarlet fever during the year, many mild cases moving freely among other children for some time before being recognized ; and it is a matter for congratulation that so few cases have been notified from the Awre district.

There was only one case of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, and this has not been admitted to the Sanatorium up to the present.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

Notifications	Cases		Suspects	Children in same house	
Scarlet Fever	..	—	..	0	.. 1
Whooping Cough	..	18	..	0	.. 0
Chicken Pox	..	20	..	0	.. 0
Impetigo	..	1	..	0	.. 0
Others	..	39	..	0	.. 0

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

Name of School	Disease	1st day of Closure	Last day of Closure	No. of School days closed
Awre, Blakeney Cl. . .	Whooping Cough . .	12-3-14	.. 20-3-14	.. 7

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE.—Awre has an excellent supply of water, even in the driest weather. There are only four houses at Brain's Green where the supply fails, and they can obtain an excellent supply at a distance of 200 yards.

In Blakeney, the administrative centre of the district, there is a complete absence of common privies.

BYE-LAWS.—New Building Bye-Laws under the L.G.B. Order of 1877 are about to be submitted to the Local Government Board for approval.

HOUSING.—There have been no new houses built, but one house has been turned into two. There is no deficiency of housing accommodation for the working classes.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE WORK

supplied by Mr H. Hook, who has been appointed to carry on the work of Inspector under the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1909 :—

HOUSING :

Plans for new houses approved	.. .. .	0
Houses built	.. .. . (1 converted into 2)	0
Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—		
Houses inspected	.. .. .	10
Houses with defects for which notices were necessary		8

HOUSING (*contd.*) :—

Houses for which notices were served :—					
Under Sec. 15, Housing, Town Planning Act, 1909					0
Under other Sections of Public Health Acts	..				8
No. remedied	..	..	..	..	8
Houses unfit for habitation	..	..	..	..	0
No. made habitable	..	..	..	..	0
Representations to District Council (Closing Orders)					0
Closing orders	..	..	..	..	0
Demolition orders	..	..	..	..	0
Cases of overcrowding reported	..	..	..	..	3
Houses cleansed on notice	..	..	..	..	1

WATER SUPPLY :

Wells sunk or improved sources of supply provided					2
Wells closed	..	..	..	..	0
Samples taken for examination	..	..	..	..	0

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE :

Earth closets, pail closets or improved privies constructed	..	..	..	..	8
Privy vaults abolished	..	..	..	..	8
Notices served to empty privy vaults	..	..	..	..	3

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

	No. on register.		No. inspections	
Common Lodging-houses	0	0
Slaughter-houses	3	27
Bakehouses	3	15
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	24	115
			(1 improved)	
Workshops	3	9

GENERAL :

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	0
Nuisances reported to District Council	..	..	..	..	8
Swine	..	..	..	..	0
Nuisances abated	..	..	..	..	37
Preliminary notices served	..	..	..	..	25
Statutory notices served	..	..	..	..	9
Summonses taken out	..	..	..	..	4
Total number of convictions	..	..	..	..	4
			(In respect to 1 house)		

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :

Cases visited and reported on	..	..	..	2
Houses in which cases occurred	..	..	..	1
Houses disinfected	..	..	..	1
Methods of disinfection used—Spray with formalin.				

O. W. ANDREWS.

NEWNHAM URBAN DISTRICT

Composition of District : The Town and Parish of Newnham-on-Severn.

Chairman of Council : R. J. KERR, ESQ., Newnham.

Clerk to the Council : MR. M. F. CARTER, Solicitor, Newnham.

Sanitary Inspector : Mr. H. HOOK, Westbury-on-Severn.

Surveyor, and Surveyor of Highways : MR. H. FERRIS, Newnham.

Assessable Value of District, £8831.

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

Acts :

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890	..	Adopted 1893
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part III.	1893

Regulations :

Dairies and Cowsheds, &c., Orders, 1885-6	..	Adopted 1910
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Bye-Laws :

New Streets and Buildings (U)	1863
New Streets and Buildings Order, 1877	..	1914
Removal of Nuisances and Keeping of Animals		1863
Common Lodging Houses	.. .. .	1863
Slaughter Houses	.. .. .	1863

This district was constituted a Local Board before the passing of the Public Health Act, 1872, when it became an Urban Sanitary Authority, and subsequently at the passing of the Local Government Act, 1894, and Urban District Council.

GENERAL STATISTICS

	1901	1911
Area of District in Acres	1937	1937
Inhabited houses	273	256
Total tenements	266	
Ditto of less than 5 rooms	53	
Average No. of persons per house ..	4.4	3.98
Total Population	1184	1021
Males	564	
Females	620	

BIRTH-RATE.

During the year there were registered 20 births, giving a rate of 20.6.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 41 YEARS.

	1914	Highest No. in 41 years	Lowest ditto
BIRTHS	20 (1877)	51 (1911)	13
Ratio of Births per 1000 of population	20.6	31.3 (1874)	9.1
DEATHS—			
Small Pox	0	(1874) 5	0
Measles	0	2	0
Scarlatina	0	1	0
Croup and Diphtheria	0	1	0
Whooping Cough	0	2	0
Fever	0	1	0
Cholera, Diarrhœa and Dysentery ..	0	2	0
Puerperal Fever	0	—*	—*
Erysipelas	0	—*	—*
Total Deaths from Septic diseases	0	(1892) 29	(1898) 10
Ratio of Deaths per 1000 of population	16.5	21.2	8
Deaths under 5 years of age ..	0	10	0
Deaths under 1 year of age	0	—*	0
Deaths under 1 year of age	0	—*	—*
Ditto per 1000 births	0	—*	—*

* I am unable to give these figures.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate			Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	1053	23		21·8	12	11·4	1	2	4	174	13	12·3
1910	1037	17		16·4	19	18·3	0	2	1	58	21	20·2
1911	1021	13	13	12·7	14	13·7	1	2	0	0	15	14·6
1912	1001	24	24	23·8	13	12·9	0	1	5	208	14	13·9
1913	985	26	27	27·4	11	11·1	0	2	1	37	13	13·1
1914	969	20	20	20·6	15	15·4	0	1	0	0	16	16·5

Area of District in Acres	..	1,937
Total population at all ages (1911)		1,021
No. of inhabited houses (1911)	..	256
Average No. of persons per house (1911)		3·98

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE.—The crude rate was 15·4, and this, corrected by the factor for the district, gives a standardised rate of 13·0. There was, however, one death of a resident dying outside the district, which, added to the registered death in the district, brings the nett death-rate up to 16·5, which is considerably higher than that for the 145 smaller towns of England and Wales, and still higher compared with the rate for the Rural District, with which this district is really comparable, but when we consider that there were no deaths from notifiable disease, that there were no deaths under 32 years of age, and of the two between 25 and 45 one was by drowning, and of those over 65 seven ranged from 70 to 84 years of age, it will be seen that a high death-rate is more apparent than real.

MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES AND ITS CAUSES.

DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT
AT SUBJOINED AGES.

DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.												Deaths in Institutions	Town
CAUSES OF DEATH			All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards		
All causes—	certified	16											
	uncertified	0											
Influenza ..	..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0
Phthisis Pulmonary													
Tuberculosis ..	..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0
Cancer, Malignant													
Disease ..	..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	0..	1
Organic Heart Disease		1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	1
Bronchitis ..	..	2	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1	0..	2
Pneumonia ..	..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	0..	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	0..	1
Nephritis and													
Bright's Disease ..	..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	1
Suicide ..	..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0..	1
Other defined Diseases		8	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	2..	5	0..	8
Diseases ill-defined or													
unknown ..	..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0
Total ..	..	16	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..	6..	8	0..	16

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—There was one case of scarlet fever, which was removed to Hospital, and one case of pulmonary tuberculosis, which was visited by the Medical Officer of Health. The girl, a servant, has not been admitted to a Sanatorium.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	At all ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	Newnham	Removed to Hospital
Erysipelas ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ..	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Pulmonary										
Tuberculosis ..	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Other Forms of										
Tuberculosis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1

Isolation Hospital—Joint with East Dean, Westbury and Awre,
at Greenbottom, Littledean, near Newnham, Glos.
Sanatoria—Cranham Lodge, Stroud.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

Notifications	Cases	Suspects	Children in same house
Ringworm ..	1 ..	— ..	—

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

NIL

In August last new Building Bye-Laws under the L.G.B. Order of 1877 were adopted in this district.

There is no evidence of a deficiency of housing accommodation for the working classes in the district.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE.—In the Report for 1913 reference was made to the danger to some of the houses having hand flushed W.C.'s, owing to the supply of water to them being insufficient on account of the leakage into the Severn from the pipes supplying water to the town. During 1914 repairs have been carried out, which, it is believed, will ensure an adequate supply of water to the town.

The following is a summary of routine work done during the year up to September 30th, when Mr H. Hook, the Sanitary Inspector for the three districts of Awre, Newnham, and Westbury-on-Severn, relinquished his duties here temporarily to join the R.A.M.C., Mr L. G. Lyne, of Cinderford, kindly undertaking the work in his absence.

HOUSING :

Plans for new houses approved	1
Houses built	1
Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—	
Area inspected—No special area	
Houses inspected	10
Houses with defects for which notices were necessary	3
Houses for which notices were served	3
(a) Under Sec. 15, Housing, Town Planning Act, 1909	0
No. remedied	0
(b) Under other Public Health Acts	3
No. remedied	3
Houses unfit for habitation	0
Representations made to District Council	0

Closing Orders made	0
Demolition Orders	0
Cases of overcrowding reported	1
No. abated	1
Houses cleansed on notice	4

WATER SUPPLY :

New connections with Public Supply	0
Wells closed	0
Samples taken for examination	1

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE :

Houses newly connected with sewers	
W.C.'s newly supplied with flushing cisterns upon notice	6
Notices to empty privy vaults	2
Earth closets, pail closets or improved privies constructed	6
Privy vaults abolished	1

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections
Common Lodging-houses	0	0
Slaughter-houses	2	18
Bakehouses	3	15
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	10	50
Workshops	14	30

GENERAL :

Complaints received	3
Nuisances reported to District Council	9
Nuisances abated	33
Preliminary notices served	20
Statutory notices served	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASE :

Cases visited and reported on	1
Houses in which cases occurred	1
Houses disinfected	1
Methods of disinfection used—Spray with formalin.	

O. W. ANDREWS.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN URBAN DISTRICT

Composition of District : The Parish of Westbury-on-Severn.

Chairman of Council : M. W. COLCHESTER-WEMYSS, ESQ.,
Westbury-on-Severn.

Clerk to Council : Mr M. F. CARTER, Solicitor, Newnham-
on-Severn.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor : Mr HORACE HOOK,
Westbury-on-Severn.

Assessable Value of District, £16,497.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, REGULATIONS AND BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

Acts :

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890	..	Adopted 1910
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Regulations :

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885-6

Bye-Laws :

Common Lodging-houses	1863
New Streets and Buildings	.. .. .	1863
Prevention of Nuisances and Keeping of Animals	.. .. .	1863

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	1901	1911
Area of District in Acres	8264	8257
Inhabited houses	422	
Total Tenements	424	401
Do. of less than 5 Rooms.. .. .	140	
Average number of Persons per		
House	4.4	4.5
Total Population	1866	1812
Males	949	
Females	917	

A comparison of the area of this district with what it was in 1901 and 1911 shows a decrease of seven acres. This has been caused by erosion of the Severn banks.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 41 YEARS.

	1914	Highest No. in 41 years	Lowest ditto
BIRTHS—			
Total	36	83 (1880)	21 (1913)
Ratio of Births per 1000 of population	20·0	33·2	11·6 (1913)
DEATHS—			
Small Pox and Chicken Pox	0	1	0
Measles	0	3	0
Scarlatina	0	1	0
Croup and Diphtheria ..	0	7	0
Whooping Cough	1	5	0
Fever	0	2	0
Cholera, Diarrhœa and Dysentery	0	5	0
Puerperal Fever	0	—*	—*
Erysipelas	0	—*	—*
Total deaths from Zymotic diseases	2	10	0
Total deaths from all causes	26	47 (1890)	22 (1904)
Ratio per 1,000 of population	14·4	22·5	11·2
Deaths under 5 years of age ..	2	16	2
Deaths under 1 year of age per 1000 births	28	—	—

* I cannot give these figures.

There were 36 Births registered in the district, giving a rate of 20·0, which is below that for the 145 smaller towns of England and Wales.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate			Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	1822	43		23·6	45	24·0	23	6	2	46	28	15·3
1910	1817	41		22·5	33	18·1	14	6	3	75	25	13·7
1911	1812	41	38	20·9	42	23·1	12	1	2	48	31	17·1
1912	1807	37	32	17·7	29	16·0	9	4	1	31	24	13·3
1913	1803	28	21	11·6	40	22·1	20	3	1	47	23	12·7
1914	1797	36	36	20·0	29	16·1	6	3	1	28	26	14·4

Area of District in Acres 8,257

Total population at all ages (1911) 1,812

No. of inhabited houses (1911) 401

Average No. of persons per house (1911) 4.51

DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATES.—There were 29 deaths registered in the district, giving a crude rate of 16.1, which is very high compared with the rate of 12.2 for the Rural District, and 12.9 for the 145 smaller towns of England and Wales, but when this rate is corrected by the factor for the district we get the much more favourable rate of 11.3.

Three deaths of residents taking place outside the district must be added, and of the 11 deaths in the Union Workhouse, Westbury, 6 must be deducted as not belonging to the district, and this gives a nett death rate of 14.4, which seems high until we consider that 22 of the 26 deaths were over 45 years of age, and 15 over 65 years of age.

The two deaths from violence were both due to accidental falls, one whilst fruit picking.

MORTALITY AT ALL AGES AND ITS CAUSES.

DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT
AT SUBJOINED AGES

CAUSES OF DEATHS	All Ages														Deaths in Public Institutions
		Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	The Flatt	Chaxhill	Elton	Stantway	Other parts Westbury	
All causes—															
certified	26														
uncertified	0														
Whooping Cough ..	1	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Erysipelas ..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Phthisis—Pulmonary															
Tuberculosis ..	1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	1
Cancer,															
Malignant Disease	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Meningitis ..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Organic Heart Disease	5	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	4..	1	1..	0..	1..	0..	3	3
Bronchitis ..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0
Appendicitis and															
Typhlitis ..	1	0..	1..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0
Nephritis and Bright's															
Disease ..	2	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	2	0
Other Accidents and															
Diseases of															
Pregnancy and															
Parturition ..	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	1
Violent Deaths,															
excluding suicide	2	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2	0..	0..	0..	0..	2	0
Other defined Diseases	1	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0	0
Diseases ill-defined or															
unknown ..	10	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	2..	8	1..	1..	0..	0..	8	6
All causes ..	26	1..	1..	0..	1..	0..	1..	7..	15	2..	1..	1..	1	21	11

There was one death from Phthisis in the Workhouse, the man belonging to the East Dean Rural District, and one death from Phthisis belonging to the district, being that of a boy 14, a tailor, who died in the County Lunatic Asylum, Wotton, Gloucester.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total
All causes—certified ..	1									
„ uncertified ..	0									
Whooping Cough ..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1
Total ..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1
Births in the year—Legitimate, 34 ; Illegitimate 2										
Deaths in the year—Legitimate, 1 ; Illegitimate, 0										

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	Northwood Green	Westbury	Elton	Removed to Hospital
Erysipelas ..	2	0..	0..	0..	0..	0..	1..	1	1..	1..	0	0
Scarlet Fever ..	3	0..	1..	1..	0..	1..	0..	0	3..	0..	0	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1	0..	0..	0..	1..	0..	0..	0	0..	0..	1	1
Total ..	6	0..	1..	1..	1..	1..	1..	1	4..	1..	1	4

Isolation Hospital—Joint with East Dean, Awre and Newnham
Sanatoria—Cranham Lodge, Stroud

The three cases of scarlet fever were all notified in September, and were members of one family living at the same house. There was nothing on the premises to account for the outbreak. All three were removed to the hospital.

There was one case of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, a married woman, who was admitted to the Sanatorium at Cranham and received treatment for about two months.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

Notifications	Cases	Suspects	Children in same house
Mumps	1	—	—

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

NIL.

BYE-LAWS.—The Council are considering the adoption of new Building Bye-Laws under L.G.B. Order, 1877, which are shortly to be submitted to the Local Government Board for approval.

The following is a summary of Routine Work up to Sept. 30th, supplied by Mr H. Hook, the Sanitary Inspector for the Awre, Newnham, and Westbury Urban district.

HOUSING :

Plans for new houses approved	..	..	..	2
Houses built	..	..	..	2
Water Certificates granted under Section 6 Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	..	..	..	0
Housing, Town Planning Act, 1909, Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—				
Houses inspected	..	..	..	12
Houses with defects for which notices were necessary				12
Houses for which notices were served—				
(a) Under Sec. 15 Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909	..	..	..	2
(b) Under other sections of Public Health Acts				10
No. remedied	..	..	..	9
Houses unfit for habitation	..	..	..	2
Houses made habitable	..	..	..	0
Representations to District Council		..	..	2
Closing orders	..	..	..	2
Demolition orders	..	..	..	0
Statutory notices served	..	..	..	0
Cases of overcrowding reported	..	..	..	3
Cases abated	..	..	..	3
Houses cleansed on notice	..	..	..	3

WATER SUPPLY :

No. of new connections with Public Supply—				
			No Public Supply	
Wells sunk or approved sources of supply provided				3
Wells closed	..	..	..	0
Samples taken for examination	..	..	..	1
Earth closets, pail closets or improved privies constructed	..	..	..	12
Notices served to empty privy vaults	..	..	..	5
Number of privy vaults abolished	..	..	..	12

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

	No. on Register	No. Inspected
Slaughter-houses	2	18
Bakehouses	6	30
Dairies, cowsheds, milkshops	24	100
Workshops	5	10

GENERAL :

Complaints received	..	..	0
Nuisances reported to District Council	..	..	12
Nuisances abated	..	..	70
Preliminary notices served	..	..	40
Statutory notices served	..	..	13
Summonses taken out	..	..	0

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :

Cases visited and reported on	..	..	5
Houses in which cases occurred	..	..	3
Houses disinfected	2
Method of disinfection used—Sprayed with formalin			

O. W. ANDREWS.

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APPENDIX. TABLE I.—SHOWING THE GENERAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE UNITED DISTRICT

SANITARY DISTRICT	Area in Statute Acres	HOUSES INHABITED				POPULATION			BIRTHS (1)		DEATHS				
		1901	1911	Increase or Decrease	Average No. of Persons per House	1901	1911	Increase or Decrease	1914 Estimated	No.	Rate per 1000 of Population	Under 5 Years	Above 5 Years	Total	Rate per 1,000 of Population
East Dean Rural ..	28626	4305	4473	+ 168	4.46	20011	19952	— 59	19933	527	26.4	59	208	267	13.4
Westbury-on-Severn Urban ..	8257	422	401	— 21	4.51	1866	1812	— 54	1797	36	20.0	2	24	26	14.4
Newnham-on-Severn Urban ..	1937	266	256	— 10	3.98	1184	1021	— 163	969	20	20.6	0	16	16	16.5
Awre Urban ..	4317	258	264	+ 6	4.05	1096	1070	— 26	1061	16	15.0	2	13	15	14.1
Gloucester Rural ..	30684	2062	2610	+ 548	4.80	10779	12615	+ 1836	13230	226	17.0	11	93	104	7.9
Lydney Rural ..	24554	1867	2052	+ 185	4.38	8649	9005	+ 356	9122	186	20.3	13	100	113	12.3
Total ..	98375	9180	10056	938	4.5	43585	45475	1890	46112	1011	21.9	87	454	541	11.7
															63

(1) Average for the whole of England and Wales for 1914 :—Birth-rate 23.6. Death-rate 13.6. Infant Death-rate .105
Average for Rural England and Wales for 1914 :—Birth-rate 21.9. Death-rate 12.2. Infant Death-rate 93

APPENDIX. TABLE III.—NEW CASES OF NOTIFIABLE SICKNESS IN THE WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE
UNITED DISTRICT DURING 1914 SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED AND REMOVED TO
HOSPITAL

SANITARY DISTRICT	Population in 1914	CASES		DISEASES											OCCURRED IN OR REMOVED TO HOSPITAL						Total occurring in or removed to Hospital
		At all Ages	Scarlet Fever	Croup and Diphtheria	Enteric and Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Fever	Small Pox	Erysipelas	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Poliomylitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	Scarlet Fever	Croup and Diphtheria	Enteric and Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Fever	Small Pox	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	
East Dean Rural ..	19933	291	208	14	5	0	0	10	0	0	2	44	8	137	3	2	0	0	22	0	164
Westbury-on-Severn Urban ..	1797	6	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Newnham-on-Severn Urban ..	969	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Awre Urban ..	1061	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Gloucester Rural ..	13230	103	61	15	4	0	0	1	1	0	1	17	3	11	4	2	0	0	10	0	27
Lydney Rural ..	9122	92	75	3	1	0	0	5	0	0	1	7	0	59	0	1	0	0	2	0	62
	46112	499	351	32	10	0	0	18	1	0	4	71	12	214	7	5	0	0	35	0	261